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ABSTRACT

This review of the accomplishments of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) during the Medium-Term Programme 1981-1985 maps IFLA's professional activities in all fields in which the federation is active and provides information for those interested in the international development of librarianship. This account of IFLA's most recent 5 years of work is divided into three major sections. Part I, The Library World Reflected in IFLA, comprises the following sections: Prologue, The Library User, Library Materials, Bibliography and Cataloging, Library Management and Library Cooperation, and the Library Profession. Part II, IFLA at Work, comprises IFLA Structure and Organization, The Core Programmes, General Research Libraries, Special Libraries, Libraries Serving the General Public, Bibliographic Control, Collections and Services, Management and Technology, Education and Research, and Regional Activities. The final section contains a reference list of the 376 sources on which this survey is based and an author index to the references. (THC)

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IFLA
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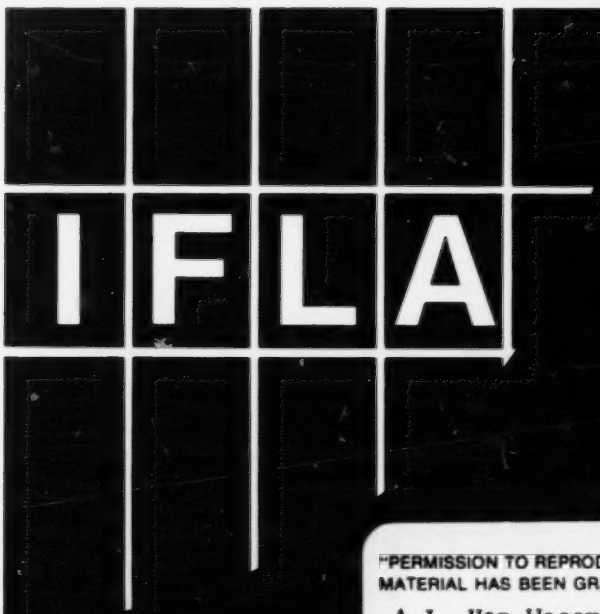

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IFLA AND THE LIBRARY WORLD

A REVIEW OF THE WORK OF IFLA, 1981-1985

Compiled by
P.J. van Swigchem
at the request of
IFLA's Professional Board
IFLA Headquarters
THE HAGUE, 1985

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PREFACE

International organizations are often accused of acting very slowly. Those of us who have been involved in international work for some time accept the fact that action must take longer on the international level than on the national scene. Although steps in the right direction may be shorter, the body behind the decisions taken is stronger, by virtue of its comprehensive membership. Difficult communications - literally speaking, as well as differences in cultural attitudes and political systems can create barriers, but these are barriers which might be overcome to the advantage of the world at large.

With this background in mind, I find that IFLA's Members can be very satisfied with the outcome of our last Medium-Term Programme covering the years 1981-1985.

For the first time a review of what has been achieved during such a period has been published, and I want to thank all those who have made this possible. It gives an impressive survey of what IFLA stands for and what it really has achieved. There is no need to go into details and emphasize any specific programme, project, or unit's work. The review speaks for itself. Let me instead express my gratitude to all who have contributed to IFLA's work during this period: all the volunteers as well as our paid staff.

This review forms a good basis for the formulation of future work and proves what we can achieve when joining forces.

Oslo, June 1985
Else Granheim
President of IFLA

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

IFLA's Professional Board has asked me to compile a survey of what IFLA has achieved during the Medium-Term Programme 1981-1985. Such a survey should not only map IFLA's professional activities in all fields in which the Federation is active, but it should also give information to those who are interested in the international development of librarianship, although these persons may not be directly involved in such developments.
It was clear from the very beginning that to achieve this work I would need the help of many colleagues. I am greatly indebted to the staff of IFLA Headquarters for their cooperation and extend a special word of thanks to The Professional Coordinator, Mr. A.L. van Wesemael, who has given me much valuable advice, based on his knowledge of and experience in IFLA and Unesco publications and documents. I should also like to thank Mr. William H. Brown, who has changed my English - which is far from perfect - to the King's English you will find in this booklet, and to his staff which has prepared a typescript which could be used without any problem by the printer. Finally a word of thanks is offered to the Dutch Library Centre in The Hague, which has prepared the layout of this publication, printed it, and under whose auspices Mr. R.Ch. Heyjer has given the final bibliographic touches to the list of references.

Pier van Swigchem

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INTRODUCTION

Changes in the library profession

Over the last twenty years librarians worldwide have been confronted by far-reaching and fundamental changes created by the enormous expansion of the supply of, and demand for, information. Even more important, however, are some particular influences, for example, the extension of library services to populations whose needs hitherto have gone unrecognized, or, again, the introduction of entirely new ranges of library materials to complement the traditional book and journal. Above all, perhaps, there is the entire field of automation, the storage, retrieval and transfer of information by increasingly sophisticated electronic equipment and networks. These developments have, of course, been under way for many years, but it is comparatively recently, within the last decade, that their real impact on the objectives and methodology of libraries has been noticeable. What is equally clear is that the solutions to the problems created by these developments cannot be achieved at local or even at national level; they require instead a concerted effort of international co-ordination to investigate, plan, and implement the courses of action required to overcome them.

IFLA in a global context

It is in this international role that the importance of IFLA has to be judged, its significance for national library associations and for each of its member libraries.
International endeavour, however, can only succeed if it recognizes the needs and aspirations of local library communities. More than ever before, effective librarianship depends upon co-operation whether in accessions policies, cataloguing, information retrieval, loan and document delivery, or in information transfer. Much of this is self-evident, but, nevertheless, a certain parochialism still exists, and many librarians feel that they need not look beyond their own national boundaries. What then can IFLA add to their professional understanding, to the improvement of their management skills and their formulation of library policies? Can they find in the proceedings of the IFLA Conferences matters of direct concern to themselves and feel drawn into relevant IFLA projects?

The IFLA Medium-Term Programme 1981-1985

It is to these and other questions that this booklet will, I hope, provide affirmative answers. It is an account of the five years of the work of IFLA covered by the last Medium-Term Programme, 1981-1985, approved by IFLA's Professional Board, and adopted at the General Council Meeting in Leipzig in 1981. It was published in 1982 (1). Like its predecessors (2) it was the blueprint and guide to IFLA's professional programme and to the activities of the Divisions, Sections, Round Tables, and the Offices established to service what are now known as the core programmes. As the forthcoming General Council Meeting in Chicago, 1985, will have the responsibility of adopting the next five-year programme, an analysis and an evaluation of what has been accomplished in this period may, therefore, be useful.

An introduction to the work of IFLA

This survey is essentially the first attempt to provide a comprehensive review, for those who wish to be informed about the scope of IFLA's activities, of the wide range of topics discussed at meetings and of the diverse objectives of its professional units. Their relevance to all types of libraries throughout the world will be demonstrated, not only in relation to those countries with long traditions of library services firmly established, but also in developing countries where much pioneering work, even now, remains to be done. It will be a tour through the library world in its widest sense showing the library user and his needs, the supply of documents and other materials, with reflections also on such areas as library policy and management, in short, comprehending everything which contributes to the satisfaction of supply and demand for literature and for information. All of this is reflected in IFLA's work and that of the other international agencies, such as Unesco, ICA, and FID, with which it collaborates.
However, before embarking on this tour let us remind ourselves of the two important factors, the widening geographical horizons of all library activity, and the impact of information technology.

PART I THE LIBRARY WORLD REFLECTED IN IFLA

1 PROLOGUE

1.1 THE WIDENING HORIZON

Developing countries before 1971

During the first thirty years of IFLA's existence, international relations in the world of librarianship tended to be the concern of the countries of Europe and North America which, almost without exception, provided the delegates to IFLA meetings. The problems of librarianship in other parts of the world were hardly discussed, although, from time to time, an occasional report was received from the library associations of Latin American, Asian, and African countries (3). However, following the second World War, in the years which saw the emergence of so many independent nations in Asia and in Africa, things began to change. For many new governments this same independence brought with it a responsibility for libraries and information centres which were seen as indispensable components of educational, economic, and industrial development. Already, by 1953, "the importance of libraries as an instrument of utmost value in underdeveloped countries" had been made a special feature on the agenda of the IFLA Conference in Vienna. But it was not until the 1970s that the problems of the Third World began really to change fundamentally the structure of IFLA (4).

The participation of the Third World after 1971

At the IFLA General Council Meeting in Liverpool in 1971, a resolution was adopted "that a working group on developing countries be created to act as a co-ordinating agency with the other Sections and Committees of IFLA, and to provide a forum for discussion of library problems of common interest to developing countries". In the new Statutes of IFLA, adopted in 1976, this working group was changed into a Division of Regional Activities with Sections for Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, a Division which has done much to establish the importance of the Third World to the work of IFLA as a whole. As an indication of the rising importance of this sector of its membership, in 1972 there were 48 association or institutional members registered from developing countries which, by 1984, had grown to 285, or to around 30% of the total IFLA membership. The figures for attendance at conferences show a similar dramatic increase rising from 1.5% in 1969 to 15% in 1975, while in 1980, when, for the first time, a conference was organized in a developing country, the Philippines, the representatives of the Third World outnumbered all others.

Seminars and workshops

The Liverpool meeting saw also the beginning of a new element in IFLA's activities, pre-conference seminars and workshops for developing countries. Many have followed since, supported either by Unesco or by other agencies, governmental or non-governmental, but all providing useful and stimulating opportunities for exchange of experience between developing and developed countries. The themes have been wide-ranging and, over the period under review, either in association with IFLA General Conferences or, occasionally at ad hoc sessions between them, they have covered public library policy (5,6); university libraries and information in science and technology (7); library services for the visually handicapped (8); library education (9); national centres for library services (10); library work with children and young adults (11); library service to hospitals and handicapped people (12); map curatorship (13); in all, a very creditable spectrum.

Projects

The assistance of Unesco and other organizations such as the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the German Foundation for International Development (DSE), and the Dutch Public Library Centre (NBLC) has enabled IFLA to launch projects which have made significant contributions to the development of library services in the Third World. Examples include the database of experienced library and information personnel in Asia and Oceania (ELIPA) (14) and an experiment with home libraries in Zimbabwe (15). Others are school libraries for blind children in Sierra Leone, and the development of reading in Senegal.

Martinus Nijhoff Grant

Still considering Third World support, in recent years the generous provisions of the Martinus Nijhoff Grant have enabled librarians from developing countries to study specific subjects in European libraries (16).

Towards a core programme

However, it is not only in these external activities that the advance of Third World librarianship has been fostered; within the structure of IFLA itself the developing countries are increasingly represented on the Standing Committees of the Sections and on the Coordinating Boards of the Divisions. The professional programmes, too, reflect this particular concern as the following chapters will show. And so it was simply the culmination of the policies of a decade or more when, in 1984, the Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World officially became one of IFLA's core programmes.

1.2 THE ADVANCE OF TECHNOLOGY

IFLA and information technology

It was as recently as 1963 that a separate unit was formed in IFLA to study what we now see as the beginning of today's information technology (17). Its original title was Committee (or Section) on Mechanization, but, by the early 1970s, the principal concerns of the group had been extended to the application of automation to library procedures, and the exchange of bibliographic data in machine-readable form. The latter was the subject of a seminar held in Berlin in 1971 (18) which was the stimulus for a number of subsequent seminars and symposia. From the beginning it has been clear that the impact of technology on libraries would create more radical changes than the mere computerizing of routines and procedures. Advances in technology whether applied to automation or to the creation of ever more sophisticated audio-visual media, or a combination of them, have changed fundamentally the pattern of the flow of information both within national boundaries and across them (19).

Transborder data flow

So important has it become, that transborder data flow is today one of the core programmes of IFLA. The interconnection of databases among nations irrespective of boundaries may be difficult to achieve, but it is of vital importance to the free flow of bibliographical information. It changes drastically and irreversibly the role of libraries and librarianship in the processing of information (20); they either become information service agencies (21) or they risk losing their influence in "our global village" (22).

Libraries in a technological world

It is in this context that the theme "Libraries in a Technological World" was chosen for the 1983 Munich Conference, a theme approached from many angles and dealt with by almost every Section (23). Thus the Public Libraries Section, for example, established a working group on the impact of information technology on public libraries, which reported in Nairobi in 1984. It is recognized that technological development can result in the creation of information services which are too complex to be undertaken by individual institutions, and that there is an ever increasing need for interdependence rather than independence (24) and for the close co-operation which results in networking.

Networks

"Networks" was chosen as the general theme of the IFLA Conference in Montreal in 1982. Attention was given to the fundamental role of libraries in the information network (25), to particular aspects such as the effect of networks on research libraries (26, 27), their special place in administrative and governmental libraries (28), and in public libraries (29).

Technology

Much discussion has centred upon technology in developing countries, whether in these territories libraries can or should attempt to keep pace with its rapid development. On the one hand, a Third World librarian has pointed to the difficulty of undertaking sophisticated work in conditions of extreme poverty, going on to say that the patterns of information services must reflect the economic resources of the countries concerned rather than blindly copying those of the developed countries (30). On the other hand, it has been stressed that the application of information technology in the libraries of the Third World is essential and is an activity which should be strongly supported both by IFLA and by Unesco (31). "The underdeveloped nations of the world today are those which came late to their industrial

revolution; the underdeveloped nations of tomorrow will be those which came late to the information revolution" (32). The sections which follow will deal with the library user and library materials, and the various means by which these are effectively brought together. It goes without saying that modern technology will feature prominently in this account, and it is particularly true in relation to the methodology of bibliographical control, which simply could not be achieved without the benefits of such technology.

2 THE LIBRARY USER

2.1 USER RESEARCH

The need for user research

Who is the user or the potential user of the library? What demand does he generate? What are his needs and his reading habits? How are those needs influenced by educational, professional, social, and economic conditions, and by technology? Without answers to such questions, the effectiveness of any library service is limited. Analysis and evaluation of community and user requirements are fundamental to library policy-making and library practice. This kind of research is obviously a local responsibility, but, nevertheless, comparative studies, taking into account experience elsewhere, are essential if an international overview is to be obtained.

Towards international guidelines

It was to further this aim that, in 1980, a joint working group of the Section for Public Libraries and the Section on Library Theory and Research began work on the preparation of international guidelines. Its report, "The use and non-use of public libraries; measuring public library use" was published in 1984. In the same year, a Round Table on Research in Reading was established to consider the promotion of research in reading and studies on readers. There is a related need for standardization in statistics, indispensable in organization and management, for which the Section on Statistics is responsible and which is discussed in Chapter 5 below.

The user and technology

In many directions, the library user and his approach to his library service is influenced by the technological advances discussed in the preceding chapter, a factor the library must recognize. User orientation rather than product orientation is the hallmark of the library in the information society (24), and the training of the reader in the identification and formulation of his needs in order to maximize the use of the services available to him will be one of the library's main tasks (34). In future, therefore, the role of even the largest research libraries will become more and more that of the organizers and distributors of information (especially with the growth of electronic publishing) and less that of the custodians of vast collections (35). Although some readers will feel inhibited by the technology of modern libraries and information services, increasing familiarity with, and experience of, home computers and the automation of all kinds of business systems will make most of them more sophisticated in their expectations and demands (36). Not that this transition is without its problems; whereas a printed text can be "possessed" for prolonged use, the image on the VDU (= video display unit) cannot, and this change in the pattern of use of basic tools will greatly affect intellectual activity (37). For many "general" readers, psychological and physical barriers may be created when they are faced with records and data which in their stored form are neither tangible nor legible.
Moreover, there is a danger of being fed too much information, and special mechanisms for screening and selecting only the relevant will be necessary. There is a risk also that, in public libraries, a gap will develop between their responsibilities for information services in this sense and for cultural, educational and recreational services for adults and for children (38).

2.2 USER EDUCATION; APPROACH TO READERS

Libraries and adult education

"Libraries for All" was the theme adopted when, in Brussels in 1977, IFLA celebrated its 50th anniversary. To realize this aim, libraries have to play a

role in cultural development, an objective emphasized at the IFLA International Seminar on the role of books and reading in society, held in Warsaw in 1980 (39) and its follow-up in Moscow in 1984 (40). Libraries have to adapt their services to the cultural and social characteristics of their users and to develop library education programmes for those for whom the library threshold still proves to be too high. User education as a special topic has more than once been considered by the Section of Public Libraries (41, 42) and by other Sections (43). The former has also recommended the establishment of a special working group on libraries and adult education and it has participated in Unesco's Fourth International Conference on Adult Education, March 1985.

Children's libraries

That children are a category of readers for which public libraries have to develop specialized, though integrated, services has been evident almost from the very beginning, and it has been recognized in local library policies and in national library legislation (44). There has, therefore, been a Section of Children's Libraries for as long as libraries serving the general public were identified as a special group in the IFLA structure (45). One of the activities of the Section (others are highlighted in later chapters) has been the publication of an international survey of library service to children throughout the world, first published in 1963 with new editions in 1966, 1978 and 1983 (46). User education was discussed in 1981 in a joint meeting with the Section of School Libraries, and again in 1984 in Nairobi. In both Sections over the last five years much attention has been focused on library work with children in developing countries. The special project "Books for All", sponsored by Unesco and administered by the Section of Children's Libraries, attracted donations from all over the world. In Leipzig in 1981, a pre-session seminar for developing countries was held on the subject of library work for children and young adults (11).

School libraries

In the Section of School Libraries, particular attention has been given to the planning and development of school library media centres for which guidelines had been published by Unesco in 1979 (48). The international movement to provide help to the "fourth world", the socially deprived of both developed and developing countries, saw also to the involvement of the Section of Children's Libraries.

Library service to ethnic and linguistic minorities

The same deprivation created by poverty and under-privileged status is too often characteristic also of ethnic and linguistic minorities, either immigrant or refugee, whose situation is worsened by language difficulties and cultural alienation. This problem has been adressed by the Division of Libraries Serving the General Public (49, 50) and a special working group, established in 1980 and which became a Round Table in 1983, took the initiative of developing guidelines and standards for library services to these groups, making recommendations also on the selection of appropriate library materials (51). These, and other related matters, are publicized in the Newsletter of the Round Table.

Library service to disadvantaged readers

The goal of all libraries should be service to the whole community, but, within the community, there are groups whose needs are in danger of being overlooked. Physical and mental handicap can prevent potential readers from using a library unless specialized provision is made for them and, where necessary, special material is available. It is to these particular problems that the Section of Library Services to Hospital Patients and Handicapped Readers, renamed in 1982 the Section of Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons, has directed its attention. Active as a Section from the earliest days of IFLA, the change of title was adopted to accommodate library services in penal institutions (52). The Section has published a directory of technical reading aids (53) and an international bibliography of hospital and welfare services (54). It has discussed bibliotherapy in an interdisciplinary context (55) and it held an international course on library service to hospital patients and handicapped readers in Stockholm in 1982 (12). In 1984, guidelines were published for libraries serving disabled persons in the community (56), and it has revised the standards for hospital services first published in *Unesco Bulletin for Libraries* in 1969 (57).

Library service to the deaf

In recent years, attention has been focused upon the deaf, the "hidden society", which can so easily be overlooked, isolated and unable to use the

normal channels of information and communication (58). Their special needs have been recognized by the formation in 1982 of a separate working group (59).

Library service to the blind

Services to the blind and the visually handicapped have a long tradition. In Brussels in 1977, a working group on library service for the blind was formed (60, 61) to be raised to a Round Table in 1979 and, in 1983, to a Section. The activities of the Section relating to library materials for the blind are discussed in the following chapter; here it should be stressed that technological developments affect not only materials, but the many new aids and devices now available (62). Seminars for Latin American and African librarians were organized in 1980 in Washington DC and in Arusha, Tanzania (8) with very profitable results (63, 64) and IFLA expert meetings on libraries for the blind were held in Marburg in 1983 and in Amsterdam in 1984 (65). Key papers presented at Štrbské Pleso in 1978 were published in 1979 (66).

3 LIBRARY MATERIALS

3.1 UNIVERSAL AVAILABILITY OF PUBLICATIONS

UAP: a concept

Almost everything relating to library materials that has been studied or discussed in IFLA circles in the last decade is in one way or another related to the concept of Universal Availability of Publications (UAP), that is to say, the widest possible availability of published material, wherever and whenever it is required, as an essential element in economic, social, educational, and personal development (67).

UAP: a programme

It is evident that a large gap still exists between the concept and its realization; it is therefore both a programme and an objective. Nor is it a matter for libraries alone; it requires the involvement of the publishing industry and the book trade as well as the co-operation of archive, documentation, and information centres. It has to be accepted also that, in conformity with Unesco's UNISIST programme and the NATIS ideals, it becomes central to national information planning. International professional organizations have much to contribute to international co-operation, for example, in the fields of interlibrary lending and the exchange of publications, supported by Unesco conventions. Improvements in the availability of publications will inevitably lead to increases in the level of demand and, therefore, national planning should not be based solely on an analysis of the current situation, but should be sufficiently flexible to accommodate technological advances in such matters as document storage and transmission (69). A steering committee to develop a programme for UAP was formed in 1977 and it was soon adopted as another of IFLA's core programmes dedicated to "all those involved in the production, storage, dissemination, conservation and use of publications, from the author, publisher and distributor through libraries, information, and archives services to the user, the ultimate beneficiary" (70).

The Office for UAP and its activities

The IFLA international programme for UAP, which has had its Office in the British Library Lending Division, Boston Spa, since its inception, is responsible for guiding and co-ordinating the work in this field being carried out by libraries of all types (71). It is concerned, too, with library activities of all kinds, and disseminates the information it gathers through a UAP Newsletter.

Bibliographical control is essential to ensure that publications can be traced, and document selection and acquisitions policies should be able to guarantee that there are a sufficient number of centres, as many as are necessary to meet national and international demand, from which documents can be made available (72). Much has already been done to implement these policies. World directories of libraries of various types have been compiled by many IFLA Sections, as can be seen in the list of publications.

Investigations have been undertaken on the international availability and supply of publications (73), and consideration given to UAP in different countries (74). In 1982, a joint Unesco/IFLA International Conference on

UAP was held in Paris, to be followed by a seminar for librarians from developing countries (75, 76). A training seminar was organized in Boston Spa in 1983 and, in 1984, a regional meeting on UAP was held in Nairobi. Studies have been conducted of the commercial supply of book materials to libraries (363); in national acquisitions policies (77); national repository planning (362); and in national interlending systems (78); possible model national systems that integrate acquisition, retention and interlending have been proposed (68) and guidelines for national planning have been issued (79). It is clear that the concept of UAP has a far-reaching effect on library policy and practice, especially in the acquisition and supply of library material, and it therefore pervades much of what follows.

3.2 PRINTED MATERIAL

Printed material: decline after explosion

A publication in the concept of UAP is not necessarily printed material: it can be any medium, printed, audio-visual, or electronic used for the transmission of information. But, although the supplementation of alternative media for paper is one of the characteristics of the development of information systems (24), it does not follow that the book is becoming out-of-date. Not only is a large part of our cultural heritage enshrined in the book, it will, into the foreseeable future, remain the most convenient tool for a large variety of readers in widely differing situations (80).

Acquisitions policy and resource sharing

It is accepted that the so-called literature explosion which followed the second World War created a situation where not even the largest libraries could be expected to meet every possible demand, even in restricted subject fields; co-ordination of acquisition policy and resource sharing become essential, all the more so in economic conditions which impose severe financial restraints on libraries (81). Equally important for UAP are the policies for discarding and de-acquisition of holdings.

Problems in the developing countries

These matters have a particular relevance in developing countries, as is clear from the resolutions of the pre-session seminar on resource sharing in libraries held in 1977 in Antwerp (82) and of the other seminars on UAP to which reference has already been made. In these countries difficulties emanate not only from lack of finance and deficiencies in library systems, but also from an underdeveloped infrastructure of authorship, publishing, book-trade (363), and adequate bibliographical organization. This affects the work of university libraries (83) as much as that of public libraries, and it has been the subject of considerable discussion (282, 283). One seminar on creative writing and publishing for children was held in Sierra Leone in 1983 (84) and a workshop on folk literature as source material for children's books was organized in the same year in Ibadan, Nigeria (84). This absence of infrastructure creates difficulties for libraries in Western countries in the acquisition of the literature of Africa (85) and Asia (86, 87), the key problem being the lack of reliable national bibliographies which cannot be produced without some system of regulated legal deposit.

Legal deposit

Under an IFLA/Unesco contract, guidelines for legal deposit have been prepared by a joint working group of the Section of National Libraries and the Section on Bibliography (88).

Exchange of publications

Exchange of publications can form an important element of acquisition practice, particularly in research and administrative libraries, and both internal exchange arrangements within countries, and the wider international exchange agreements have received much attention in IFLA over a long period (89). Problems have been debated at the meetings of the Section on Acquisition and Exchange during conferences, and a number of special meetings of experts have been held. A handbook on international exchange has been published (90) as has a guide to the composition of standard letters for exchange agreements (91), and a volume of collected papers on the subject (92). A recent extension of the topic has been the possible relationship between exchange and interlending (93). A bibliography was published in 1983 (361).

Children's books

As in many other special areas, children's books, and other materials for

children, have their own characteristics and particular problems of acquisition. Those problems have been examined from many angles by the Section of Children's Libraries which has produced a valuable series of abstracts of children's literature (94). National centres serving research on children's literature are represented by an IFLA Round Table (95).

Books for the handicapped

A bibliography of materials for the mentally handicapped has been published by the Section of Library Service to Hospital Patients and Handicapped Readers (96), and a study has been made of copyright provision and library materials for the handicapped (97). Large-print books and periodicals have been a particular interest of the Section of Libraries for the Blind (98, 99).

Instructional materials

The introduction of computers into schools provided the impetus for the Section of School Libraries to produce a report on instructional materials and skills for school children (100). The Section of University Libraries, concerned to improve the availibility of university theses, updated a guide to them (101), and went on to prepare a similar guide to the theses of non-university institutions (102).

Maps

A world directory of map collections was published in 1982 by the Section of Geography and Map Libraries (103) which has also produced a manual for map libraries, to be published in 1985 (104).

Periodicals

The Section on Serial Publications belongs to the Division of Collection and Services. Newspapers, a special area, were delegated to a working group which reported in 1981 (105). The information content of newspapers in developing countries, as exemplified by Nigeria, was discussed in 1984 (106), and an attempt has been made to identify the core collections of journals essential in national interlending (107).

Patents

Patent literature as source material for technical information has been studied by the Section on Science and Technology (108) which has also focused attention on the role of the library in its documentation and dissemination (109, 110). The same Section has published a study on poster sessions in library science (111).

Official publications

However official publications are defined - and practice varies (112) - the Section on Official Publications covers all aspects. It organized a conference of official publications experts in Saratoga Springs in 1982, and it has investigated the availability and use of material falling into this category (113). The borderline between some official publications and "grey literature" is a narrow one and the latter has been the subject of a general review (114) as well as more detailed studies. The Section of Parliamentary Libraries has discussed parliamentary papers (115), while the availability of statistical data in national statistical offices has been investigated by the Section of Administrative Libraries (116). The availability of social science publications in general (117) and those in specific areas such as international law (118) have been two of the studies carried out by the Section of Social Science Libraries.

Rare books

In the context of the UAP programme, the Section on Rare and Precious Books and Documents has been concerned with access to resources worldwide and the co-ordination of the collections which form each country's national heritage (119). It is engaged also on a continuous study of the history of the book (120) and, to further the interests of museums of the book (121), it formed a working group on the subject in 1984.

Conservation

Originally part of the remit of the above Section, the growing concern over the durability of contemporary, as well as older documents, and the problems and cost of their treatment (122), led to the establishment of a separate working group in 1974. This separation of interests has facilitated the study of the special problems of conservation in tropical areas, the effects of climatic and insect damage unknown in temperate zones (123). In 1978, the working group became a full Section and, in 1984, preservation and conservation was adopted as one of the six core programmes whose objectives are published in the 1986-1991 Medium-Term Programme.

3.3 NON-BOOK MATERIAL

Non-book material is sometimes incorrectly referred to as audio-visual material, but currently accepted international terminology (124, 125) also includes microforms and machine-readable data as non-book materials.

Microform materials

Apart from computer output microform (COM), the end product, on fiche or on film, of an automation process, microforms are generally taken to mean micro-prints made photographically from original documents and produced on film, fiche, or on card. They are adopted to serve many purposes; they can save storage space and can reduce large collections of books or data to more manageable size, or they can facilitate access to rare and precious documents not otherwise available to readers. Well-known examples are archival documents, manuscripts, newspapers, catalogues and bibliographies, but there are many other applications such as earth satellite imagery (126). The Section of Geography and Map Libraries has suggested the formation of a working group on micro and digital cartographic information.

Architectural drawings are materials for which there is a growing educational demand (127) and they lend themselves readily to microform reproduction. Banks of such images might make world art as readily accessible as world literature (128).

IFLA and audio-visual material

Here we enter the area of audio-visual material in its strict sense, audio and visual materials separately, or in combination. The importance of these media in communication and in information systems is widely acknowledged and they are included in the concept of UAP. Their study as a specific interest of IFLA began in 1973 with the establishment by the Section of Public Libraries of a working group on AV media (129). Its association with public libraries was a logical development since these materials play an important role in public library extension work and in such activities as services to the physically handicapped, and in educational programmes for immigrant and other groups (130, 131). In 1977 the working group became a Round Table of the Division of Libraries Serving the General Public in recognition of its wider importance, but this still did not meet the needs of other types of library (124, 132), and so, in 1984, the Round Table was detached from this Division and, as an independent unit capable of accommodating the interests of all professional groups, based in the Division of Management and Technology.

The application of audio-visual media

Much has been done by the Round Table and many of the Sections to disseminate information on audio-visual media and to publicize their technological development and application, especially through the series "AV in action". This has included AV services in public libraries and the storage, handling, and preservation of AV software (133). Librarians from developing countries have concentrated on its importance in the documentation and preservation of their national heritage (134) and, in particular, its place in the recording of oral traditions (136). The Section of Social Science Libraries has been concerned with the tape-recording of interviews with leading political figures as a contribution to contemporary political history (137), while the Section of Libraries for the Blind has discussed talking books (138), the application of braille in music (139), and tactile maps. The Section has also been monitoring the effects of technological advances on the future of braille. Separate media have received similar attention. Examples are the use of slides in the visual resource collections of art libraries (141) and the management and retrieval of such collections by computer (142).

Video and optical discs

Papers have been presented on the development of video-disc technology and its applications (143), on the use of video in library work with children (144, 145), in parliamentary libraries (146), and on the combined use of video-disc and microcomputer for facilitating access to maps and photographs in general and remotely sensed imagery in particular (147). The use of optical discs in document delivery has been considered, as has the optical disc pilot project of the Library of Congress (149).

Visual illiteracy?

Clearly, therefore, visual materials have an important place in information and in education, and some progress is being made towards universal

availability of images. But can images always be read? It has been suggested that there is a real problem not only of verbal, but also of visual illiteracy, and that libraries have a part to play in overcoming it (150).

Electronics in information

It has already been noted in a preceding chapter that, in the near future, communication and information can be expected to become largely a matter of electronics, an opinion voiced in more than one keynote address at the 1983 Munich Conference on the theme of libraries in a technological world. Already the computer is used to control the organization and retrieval of information in whatever form it may be stored, printed, machine-readable, or audio-visual, and increasingly libraries are turning to the software packages for the management and retrieval of bibliographic information (151).

Electronic publishing

Electronic publishing and electronic document delivery are still in their infancy, but they will undoubtedly affect the availability of publications (80). No library, of whatever kind or whatever role (152) can ignore the electronic medium, the machine-readable data system, even if the problems of control of files, and control over access to them, remain partly unsolved (80).

Videotex

In this context, the development of videotex technology has to be mentioned, in particular the application of interactive videotex, videodata, whereby information can be transferred within and between libraries and access provided to host computers for on-line searching (153). Videotex will doubtless have an increasing part to play in libraries, but there is a lack of compatibility in videotex systems, and international standardization would greatly increase its usefulness (154).

4 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND CATALOGUING

4.1. UNIVERSAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL

UBC: a concept

Library users and library materials have so far been discussed; to bring them together, the library needs the tools for retrieval which accurately describe what documents are available to meet particular needs. Books and libraries are as diverse as nations themselves in content and language and it is not surprising that, in the area of bibliographical description and cataloguing, international co-operation can achieve important practical results. How important and how practical can be demonstrated by the programme for Universal Bibliopgraphic Control developed over the last decade by IFLA with the strong support of Unesco (155).

UBC: a programme

Universal bibliographic control was first mooted in the years before the period covered by this review. It has its origins in the International Meeting of Cataloguing Experts (IMCE) held in Copenhagen in 1969 (156) when it was resolved that a system should be created for the international exchange of information by which the standard bibliographic description of every publication would be made and distributed by a national agency in the country of origin of the publication.

IFLA has considered the development of such an international system of bibliographic control as one of its major objectives (157) and to further this end, established an International Office for UBC in 1974, the year of the NATIS Conference held in Paris (158).

UBC Office and the Division of Bibliographic Control

At that conference, as at the UNISIST Conference three years earlier (159), a UBC working document advocating the concept of UBC as essential to the implementation of a global scientific information system was well received. Important as the Office is, IFLA's work in this field is not confined to it, but is augmented by the co-operation of experts in the field of bibliography and cataloguing working within the Division of Bibliographic Control (160). There is a Section on Cataloguing created in 1977 from the committee on cataloguing (161), a Section on Bibliography, also previously a committee (162), and a Section on Classification and Subject Cataloguing which, before 1981, had been a Round Table (163). All

of these Sections and others, notably the Section on Information Technology, have contributed much to the activities described here.

National agencies and national bibliographies

UBC is considered as a network of national agencies for bibliographic information (164) which are responsible for ensuring that an authoritative bibliographic record is made of each new publication issued in that country. This record should be a component of a national bibliography and be distributed to the bibliographic agencies of other countries. Initially guidance and support had to be given to bibliographic work at national level, particularly in developing countries (165, 166) and, in 1977, an international congress on national bibliographies was organized by Unesco in collaboration with IFLA (167). The background papers and the recommendations of this congress formed the basis for guidelines which were published two years later (168). A manual was compiled by the UBC Office and published by Unesco in 1983 (169), which had earlier, in 1978 and 1979, organized regional seminars on bibliographic control in Africa, in Lagos and Dakar (170, 171). In the creation of national bibliographies, there is the question of the selection of documents for inclusion or exclusion, a matter discussed regularly by the Section on Bibliography which has published recommendations (172). The Section has also undertaken studies in retrospective bibliography (173) and the automation of the national bibliography and its possible by-products (174). Nevertheless the main element remains the record, and international standardization is therefore indispensable for universal control.

4.2 STANDARDIZATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORDS

Standard bibliographic descriptions

IFLA's work on the standardization of bibliographic description (175) has two aspects, the content of the record, that is, the elements it should contain, and the physical format, whether card, COM, or machine-readable form. In 1977/78 international standard bibliographical descriptions (ISBD) were issued for Monographs (ISBD-M), Serials (ISBD-S), Cartographic Materials (ISBD-CM), and Non-Book Materials (ISBD-NBM), while the constant features, common to all ISBDs, were issued as an ISBD General (ISBD-G) (176). In 1980, ISBDs were published for Antiquarian Books (ISBD-A), and for Printed Music (ISBD-PM). An instruction manual of ISBD examples was compiled (177), and, in 1981, a draft of an ISBD for Component Parts (ISBD-CP) was circulated. Plans were also made for an extensive revision of the ISBDs of 1977/78 (178). For machine-readable files and computer software an appropriate ISBD will be compiled jointly by a working group drawn from the Section on Cataloguing and the Section on Information Technology (179, 180). Throughout, special attention has been given to the difficulties incurred in dealing with non-roman scripts in which the co-operation of the Division of Regional Activities has been invaluable (181, 182).

Authority files

The UBC programme is concerned not only with the standardization of the bibliographic description, but also with that of headings, a trend set at the International Conference on Cataloguing Principles held in Paris in 1961 (183) whose results were subsequently published in an annotated edition (183a). At the conference it was agreed that authority lists of the names of authors should be established by their country of origin, and,in 1977, criteria for the names of persons were published, followed by a supplement in 1980 (184). In addition, principles for the form and structure of corporate headings were formulated (185, 186) and authority lists of states published (187) together with lists of legislative and ministerial bodies in European countries (188), and in Africa (189). Similar lists have been issued for liturgical works and anonymous classics (189a). In order to ensure uniformity in the compilation of authority files, guidelines were published in 1985 (191).

Standard numbering schemes

Complementing standard bibliographical descriptions, international standard numbering schemes have been developed for books (ISBN) (192) and for serials (ISSN) (193).
Although the ISBN is primarily an initiative of the book trade rather than libraries, and conceived not as a bibliographical aid, but as a device for quick identification of titles, this numbering scheme has proved invaluable

in libraries, not least in interlending (194). ISSN has been the basis on which the International Serials Data System (ISDS) has, as part of the UNISIST programme, been constructed (195), and, at national level, ISDS has centres united, or closely associated with, the national centres responsible for ISBD. The international ISDS centre in Paris works in close collaboration with the UBC Office in London and they are jointly involved in a study of the problems of the compatibility of ISBD-S and ISDS records (196, 197). In IFLA, however, international standardization in serial records is not its only concern; local needs for union catalogues have been recognized by the publication of guidelines for their compilation by Unesco in 1983 (198).

Cataloguing-in-publication

The last seven or so years have seen massive strides in many countries in the adoption of cataloguing-in-publication (CIP), the recording in advance of publication of bibliographical details of a forthcoming work and its inclusion in the national bibliography, followed by the printing of the entry in the work itself. It has proved to be an invaluable innovation (199), but standards have varied and the lack of uniformity has impeded its usefulness. In 1982, therefore an international conference to try to deal with this problem was held in Ottawa (200). It made recommendations on the scope and operating procedures of CIP and on the content of CIP records, the result of which will be the publication in 1985 of guidelines for CIP entries (201).

Classification and subject headings

The more difficult aspect of universal bibliographic control is the subject entry, not only because of lack of uniformity in standard schemes of classification and in subject heading lists, but because of changes in knowledge itself. Even the most widely accepted classification schemes such as DDC, UDC, and LC cannot be used as the formula for a truly universal subject classification.
However, rather than working towards an unattainable ideal, it is more useful to evaluate existing schemes, to analyse their basic criteria (202) and to survey guidelines for classification and subject indexing (203). It is to these problems that the Section on Classification and Subject Cataloguing directs its attention with special reference to the use of classification schemes in national bibliographies (204), to automated subject indexing (205, 206), and to computerized subject cataloguing in developed as well as in developing countries (207, 208).

4.3 MARC AND UNIMARC

UNIMARC

As soon as national bibliographic agencies began to create records in machine-readable form, it became clear that bibliographical standardization in machine-readable format would be equally important. This realization has led to the preparation of the universal MARC (Machine-Readable Cataloguing) format, UNIMARC, as the exchange medium for national bibliographic agencies, a general introduction to which appeared in 1977, and a second edition in 1980 (209). This was followed by the publication of a UNIMARC handbook in 1983 (212).

UNIMARC and the MARC offices

The development of UNIMARC was assigned to two offices established for another of the core programmes of IFLA, the International MARC Programme. It originated from an international study initiated in 1975 by the Conference of Directors of National Libraries and had, as an objective, the development of an International MARC Network for the exchange of bibliographical data (18, 210). It was decided to establish two MARC offices, one in the Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt-am-Main, the other in the British Library, London. The former is responsible for testing UNIMARC (211), and the latter for the maintenance and development of UNIMARC and its use in national bibliographic centres and, in this capacity, working closely with the UBC Office. The information gathered by the Offices is disseminated in the Newsletter of the IFLA International MARC Programme, published since 1984.

As an exchange format for national bibliographical agencies, UNIMARC is no more than the beginning of an infrastructure for a world system; the next challenge is to discover or to develop a common format which enables

any organization, commercial or non-profit making, governmental or non-governmental, to exchange information regardless of format (213, 214, 215). Such challenges were discussed at Tasmina, Sicily, in 1978 (216), and a common communication format (CCF) was published by Unesco in 1984 (216a).

5 LIBRARY MANAGEMENT AND LIBRARY CO-OPERATION

5.1 STANDARDS, GUIDELINES, STATISTICS

Management: its pervasiveness

This account opened with a statement on the impact of technology and its domination of the present day library scene; almost every activity is affected by it, not least the management of libraries. Although not always explicit in the discussions of Sections and Round Tables, management has nevertheless been an essential element of many of the papers presented at their meetings, and it is worthwhile highlighting a few of the more special aspects.

Standards

It has long been a major objective of IFLA to formulate standards or guidelines as a means of improving the quality of library services especially in territories where they are undeveloped or where librarians face particular difficulties in establishing them (217).

Standards for public libraries

Not surprisingly, particular attention has always been given to public libraries; general principles, drafted by IFLA, and published as the Unesco Public Library Manifesto in 1972 (218), and revised in 1973, have received universal acceptance. They were further developed as standards by the Section of Public Libraries and were first published in 1973 and reprinted in 1977 (219). They include standards for collections, opening hours, staffing, and buildings and have been invaluable as a basis for the compilation of national standards. A complete revision is in progress to take account of the technological and other advances which have occurred since their publication and is expected to be approved in 1985.

Guidelines and standards for specialized services

The standards for children's libraries are incorporated in those for public libraries since they are such an integral part of that service. Mobile libraries, however, have received separate treatment and the Round Table on Mobile Libraries began work in 1976 to prepare guidelines for the use of mobile libraries in rural and urban environments (220). Standards for hospital library services were drafted in the 1960s by the Section of Library Service to Hospital Patients and were published in 1969 (57), to be superseded in 1984 by guidelines for libraries serving hospital patients and disabled people in the community (56). In collaboration with the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, the Section on Library Service to the Blind prepared approved recommendations on national standards (365), a guidebook (138), and a number of other aids (221), especially for the benefit of developing countries. The Section has also produced standards to be included in the revision of the standards for public libraries.
Guidelines for the planning and organization of school library media centres were drafted by the Section of School Libraries and published in 1980 by Unesco (48). Guidelines for services to ethnic and linguistic minorities are in preparation (51), and recommendations on the planning and organization of services in other types of library are a regular feature of the work of the appropriate Sections and Round Tables.

Major library systems

National standards for academic libraries have been discussed by the Section of University Libraries (222, 223), including standards for non-university institutions of tertiary education (224). The development and management of large city library systems is the special concern of the International Association of Metropolitan City Libraries (INTAMEL), which in addition to holding its own annual meetings, has, since 1978, formed a Round Table within the IFLA structure. An example of its discussions is the place of subject departments (226). The planning of administrative libraries has been the subject of a special study (227), but, as can be seen in the bibliography, there are numerous other examples.

Standards and international co-operation

Recommendations, standards, and guidelines have in common the objective of improving services, locally and nationally. However, there is a wider purpose, the creation of an international environment in which co-operation can flourish. We have seen examples in networks, in cataloguing and bibliography, especially the ISBDs, in authority files, universal formats and so on. It is this kind of standardization that is needed if libraries are to play a dominant role in the information society, and, in this role, close co-operation with ISO is essential.

Statistics

Without statistics, effective planning and evaluation of library services is impossible and, in this area, the work of the Section on Statistics has been invaluable. It has supported international co-operation by its recommendation of the adoption of the Unesco standards (228, 229, 230), and it has evaluated statistics for management purposes (231). It has studied the statistical requirements for the planning and operation of bibliographical networks (232, 233), and, for the benefit of developing countries, it has fostered the dissemination of statistical data on libraries through clearinghouses (234). A post-session seminar on statistics, attended by many experts from African countries, was organized in Nairobi in 1984.

5.2 LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

The design of library buildings is obviously critical to the quality of the service provided from them and librarians have to acquire an understanding of their planning and construction.

Seminars on library building

The study of the problems associated with new buildings is the responsibility of the Section on Library Buildings and Equipment, formed in 1961 (235). It has organized a number of seminars attended not only by librarians from developed and developing countries, but also by practicing architects who contributed much to the deliberations. A seminar on university library building was held in Lausanne in 1971, and another, on national library buildings, in Rome in 1973 (237). Public libraries were the topic for the 1977 Bremen seminar (238) and library buildings in the context of networks at Toronto in 1982 (239). In addition to general requirements, discussion has taken place also on many special and technical aspects such as building materials, heating, lighting and transport, as well as building regulations and fire protection (240). Although locally, conditions vary considerably, there is still scope for guidelines on library buildings (241), and the standards for public libraries include standards for buildings (219).

Interior design and equipment

The design of the interior of library buildings has as much, or more, influence on library use as on the building itself (242), the subject of a seminar held at Frederiksdal, Denmark, in 1980 (243). The influence of conventional technology on library buildings was a theme discussed at the meetings of the Section in Munich in 1983 (244, 245) which went on to consider also the impact of new technology (246, 247).

Buildings in the tropics

Considerable attention has been given to geographic and climatic effects on library buildings (248), and to the special requirements which need to be taken into account when designing buildings for tropical and sub-tropical areas, problems such as humidity and storm protection.

5.3 LIBRARY CO-OPERATION

Interlibrary lending

It has already been said that no library can be self-sufficient and able to meet the needs of all of its users all of the time; interlibrary co-operation was a principle accepted long before the development of library and information networks. However, from the beginning, IFLA has promoted the idea of interlending firstly through a committee on international lending and union catalogues which, in 1977, became the Section on Interlending (250) and, in 1983, the Section on Interlending and Document Delivery.

The Office for International Lending

In support of the Section, in 1975 The Office for International Lending was established on IFLA's behalf at the British Library Lending Division (251). One of the first publications of the Office was a brief guide to national centres for international lending and photocopying, now in its third edition published in 1984 (252). A widely accepted international loan/photocopy request form has been produced (148) and recommendations have been made on the design of request forms, on the collection of statistics of national and international interlibrary loans, charging policies, and on union catalogues (198). Principles and guidelines for international lending have been approved and issued (253) and the consequences of interlibrary loan for academic library management has been discussed (254). Special attention have been given to the planning of interlending systems in developing countries which have particular problems. They include a shortage of trained staff, imperfect communication systems, postal and other difficulties, and perhaps, too, a lack of equipment (255). The analysis of statistics of international lending reveals the gap in national resources and re-inforces the validity of the UAP programme. Another concern of the Section has been the identification of core collections of periodicals as the basis of national interlending systems (107).

Centres for library service

It has already been stated that objectives that are beyond the resources of individual libraries may be achieved through co-operation. One example is in the ordering of materials whether books or equipment, which may more efficiently be acquired through a national co-operative than on an individual library basis. To further this end, several countries have established national centres, either promoted by national library associations, or created as independent agencies. Although the organization of such centres varies from country to country, there is an underlying uniformity in their operation. Their services include bibliographical information and the supply of books and non-book materials on behalf of public libraries, the creation and supply of catalogue records, centralized binding facilities, and advice upon, and often the supply of, library furniture and equipment. In recognition of these activities, a Round Table of National Centres for Library Services (ROTNAC) (256) was established in 1976 with the aim of promoting the development of such services, and, in 1981, it held a number of travelling seminars to demonstrate in developing countries the benefits to be gained from the various forms of centralized services (10).

6 THE LIBRARY PROFESSION

6.1 LIBRARY EDUCATION

Education for a changing profession

Although many of the traditional skills of the librarian will remain indispensable, it will be clear from what has been discussed that librarianship is a changing profession and that different skills and expertise are required to manage the increasing complexity of, and specialization demanded by, technology; librarians will have to be able to control information systems quite detached from traditional printed materials and library education has to be able to respond to this challenge. There is a need for a generally accepted consensus of what, in this climate, is central to the profession (257). These concerns, and other aspects of training, are reflected in the programmes of the Section on Library Schools (258). In 1984, in Nairobi, the general theme addressed by the Section was the information professional in society, motivation and changing image, and impact on education and training (259). A workshop on education in library management was organized in Vienna in 1983 which emphasized the policies adopted at the FID/ICA/IFLA Bellagio meeting in 1980 (261) and underlined the need for an interdisciplinary approach to information technology. The working papers of the Vienna workshop have formed the basis for the preparation of guidelines on the teaching of management.

Library education in the Third World

It becomes increasingly important to promote education and training in countries which have no traditional expertise in this area. In 1980, in Manila, a pre-session seminar, sponsored jointly with Unesco, was

organized on library education programmes in developing countries with special reference to Asia (9), and another pre-session seminar, in Nairobi in 1984, was held on "education and training for library service at the grassroots level". In 1981, guidelines for a model curriculum were issued (262), and an international guide to information science was published in 1985 (263).

The equivalent status of qualifications

International librarianship ideally not only demands a harmonization of educational programmes whenever feasible, but also an international recognition of qualifications to encourage and to enable librarians to become completely mobile regardless of their origins. In 1977 a study was begun on the equivalence and reciprocity of qualifications and its findings were delivered in 1982 (264).

Specialized library education

It is important to consider the extent to which curricular specialization and qualifications should be pursued, for example, ought there to be special qualifications in health care librarianship, in rare books, or in serials? (265). At the level of basic education, should specialized courses be included, or are they better left to continuing education and in-service training? (266). Specialized education has been an interest of public libraries where the need for the training of children's librarians in particular has long been recognized. As early as 1968 the Section on Children's Libraries organized a seminar in Frankfurt (267) and, in 1971, it published a survey of the education and training of children's librarians, a new edition of which is being prepared by a working group established in 1981. Similar investigations have been undertaken by the Section on School Libraries (268). In 1978 a seminar on the education of school librarians in Central America and Panama was held in San Jose, Costa Rica (269), and, in 1982, a working group began to collect material for a comprehensive worldwide report on this aspect of education which will be published shortly.

6.2 LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AND LIBRARY JOURNALS

Library associations as the backbone of IFLA

The annual conference of 1971, held in Liverpool, took as its general theme the organization of the library profession and, in a series of twelve papers, subsequently published (270), covered national and regional library organization on four continents, the professional organizations of academic and public librarians, and international library organizations. It is a curious fact that although IFLA is largely composed of library associations, only incidentally have these associations as a subject formed part of IFLA's programme.

The contribution of library associations to library development

The role of library associations in the development of librarianship has been stressed (222) as has their contribution to standardization in academic libraries (223), and their importance in the field of special libraries (271). In relation to public libraries, the need for associations with the objectives of serving the professional interests of their members, formulating national public library policy, and acting as links between librarians and the communities they serve has been recognized (272).

Support of library association management

However, it was only in 1980 that the theme "Library Associations on the Move" found its way into a conference programme. In 1983, a Round Table for the Management of Library Associations was officially established within the Division of Management and Technology. Its objectives include the collection of information on the structure, management, organization and activities of library associations; assistance to them in the execution of IFLA policy; the implementation of IFLA and Unesco programmes; and the improvement of the management of associations, not least those of developing countries (273). At the Round Table's open meeting in Nairobi in 1984 the contribution of library associations to national development through the expansion of library and information services was stressed.

Library journals

No profession can exist without its channels of communication for the exchange of views and ideas and for the dissemination of the results of research, its professional journals. This is true also in librarianship and, to

cater for their special interests, the editors of library journals formed a Round Table in 1975 (274). Much of the activity of the Round Table has been directed to the problems encountered in developing countries (275, 276), but it has also considered the coverage of journals (277) and a proposal for a clearinghouse for articles (278,279). In 1982 a successful workshop was organized in Montreal (280), and editorial guidelines for the publication of journals are being prepared, the text of which will form a working document for a further workshop.

PART II IFLA AT WORK

7 IFLA STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

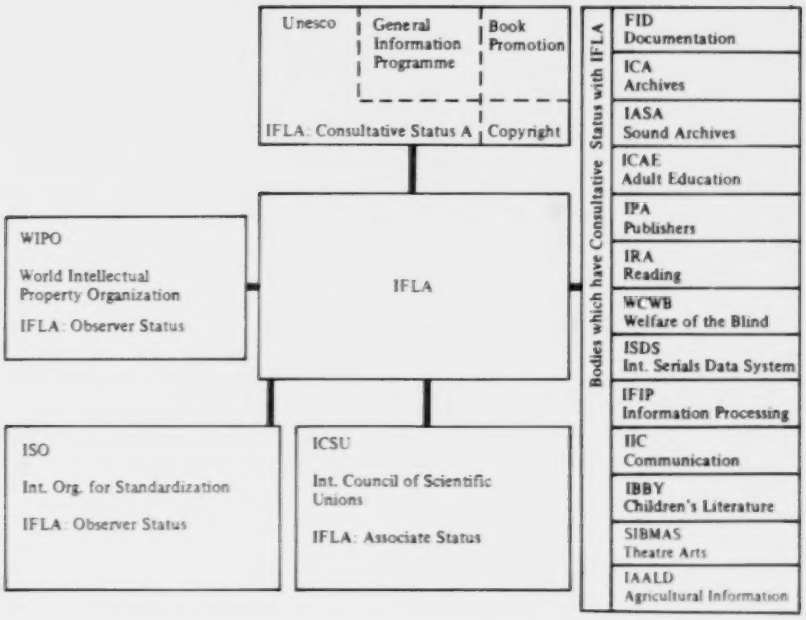
7.1 IFLA AS A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

IFLA, or, to use its full title, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, is a worldwide independent, non-governmental organization, founded in 1927 as a federation of some 20 national member organizations drawn from 15 countries (356). Today, that membership has increased to over 1100 representing 120 countries; membership is no longer confined to library associations, but includes institutional members and personal and institutional affiliates. Registered in the Netherlands with headquarters in The Hague, its objectives (cf. Statutes) are:

> To promote international understanding, co-operation, discussion, research and development in all fields of library and information service activity.
>
> To promote the continuing education of library personnel.
>
> To provide an organization through which librarianship can be represented in matters of international interest.
>
> To develop, promote and maintain guidelines for various types of library activity, including compilation of statistics, recording and communication of bibliographic data, preservation and conservation of library materials, etc.

IFLA supports these objectives by extending its membership to all countries with library and information services. The objectives aim to be applicable universally, not as in the early years geared to Western European and North American experience only, but extended to the Socialist countries and the Third World. They also aim at comprehensiveness; all types of library and library activity are covered by special groups within the structure of IFLA's international programme and which foster the international outlook now so essential in the work of the librarian and so important in many current professional issues.

IFLA has also a representative role as the world spokesman for librarianship. This is shown in its close connection with Unesco and with a number of related national bodies which, having consultative status with IFLA, provide an opportunity for a regular exchange of information and views on issues of mutual concern. Conversely, IFLA itself enjoys a special status in three other international organizations and thus forms part of the complex pattern of international relationships which can best be demonstrated by this diagram:

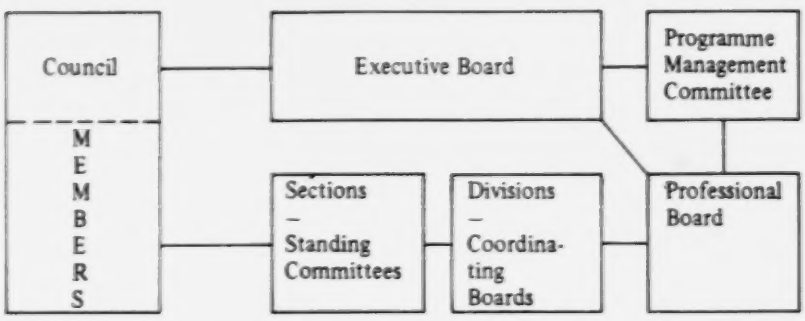


In IFLA the General Council of Members is the highest forum. It nominates and elects the members of the Executive Board, the governing body, which is responsible for the organization's general policy, management and finance, and external communications. Members are entitled to register for Sections and, if registered, to nominate and elect the Standing Committees (i.e. core groups of experts) for those Sections. Therefore they are able to contribute also to those components of IFLA's structure which govern professional activities.

7.2 IFLA STRUCTURE FOR PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

The basic professional groups are the Sections of which there are 31, each with two officers and a Standing Committee. Together with 9 Round Tables (professional units with officers but without Standing Committees), they are grouped into 8 Divisions controlled by a Coordinating Board consisting of the elected officers of the Sections and Round Tables of the Division. The entire professional programme, including all divisional programmes, is kept under review by the Professional Board which consists of one representative from each of the Divisions.

Diagramatically it can be shown thus:



In three of the Divisions the Sections are concerned with different types of libraries; in four other Divisions with types of library activity; one Division is area-oriented, concerned with the library and information services in the Third World.

In addition to the specialized professional activities of the Divisions, Sections, and Round Tables, six core programmes have been established in

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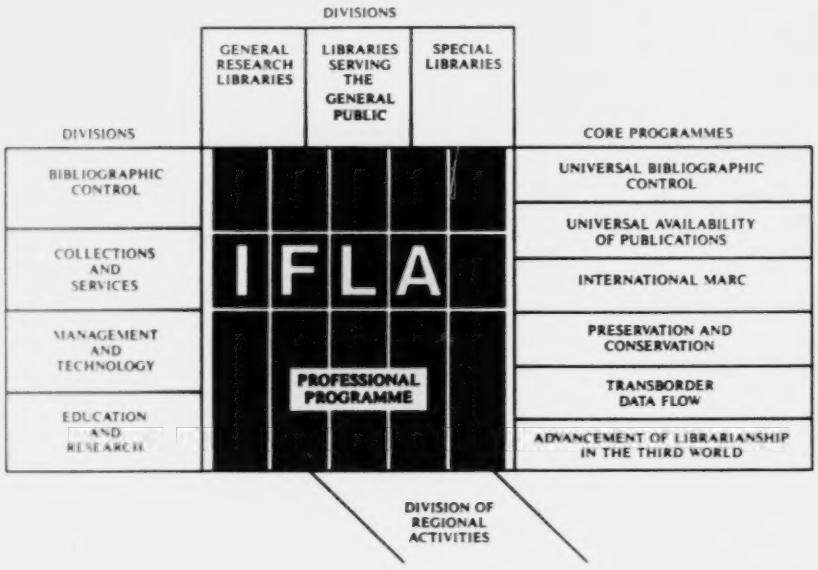
order to promote the more fundamental and pervasive concepts which affect libraries, and in most cases, library activity of all kinds. Three of them, Universal Bibliographic Control, Universal Availability of Publications, and the International MARC Programme, are operational and have permanent bureaus and Advisory Committees. The 3 other programmes are under development. These core programmes have the guidance of the Programme Management Committee which works in close co-operation with the Professional Board and is supervised by the Executive Board.

The following diagram shows how the various components of the professional programme are integrated; the vertical panels indicate library-oriented, the horizontal panels activity-oriented, and the oblique, regionally-oriented activities.



The objectives of all of the professional units, core programmes, Divisions, Sections, and Round Tables, and what they have achieved during the last five years are described in the following chapters.

8 THE CORE PROGRAMMES

8.1 UNIVERSAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL (UBC)

As was mentioned in Part One of this booklet the international programme for Universal Bibliographic Control (155) had its origins in the early work of IFLA in the field of cataloguing and bibliography. In 1974 it was adopted as a core programme with an office established in London and working in close cooperation with the Division of Bibliographic Control (160). An outline of the programme and its development during the last decade was given in Chapter 4, and more will be said about the co-ordinated activities of the Division in Chapter 12. Here it is sufficient to reiterate the programme's two main features: the production and updating of recommendations for bibliographic description of various types of library material (ISBDs), and the establishment of authority lists of names and uniform headings. There is close co-operation with the International MARC Programme, and research results are disseminated through publications including Guidelines and the quarterly journal, International Cataloguing, and through training workshops and seminars.

8.2 UNIVERSAL AVAILABILITY OF PUBLICATIONS (UAP)

In order to bridge the gap between UAP as an ideal, that is, access to any publication by any user whenever and wherever required, and UAP in practice, concerted international action is necessary in acquisitions policy, exchange of publications, and in interlending. This is evident in the work of many of the Sections and Round Tables (67), in particular, where library materials are concerned. Located at the British Library Lending Division, the office for UAP provides wide publicity for the principles and practical implementation of UAP for libraries and library materials of all types through publications (including the UAP Newsletter) and through worldwide regional meetings and conferences. A continuing programme of research is maintained, feasibility studies are undertaken on many projects such as the design of national availability systems for individual countries, national repository plans and programmes (362) and the office will provide assistance and technical advice on the efficient operation of systems and procedures with emphasis whenever appropriate on the need for action at the political level.

8.3 INTERNATIONAL MARC PROGRAMME (IMP)

It was described in Chapter 4 how the development of national bibliographic data on magnetic tape led to the establishment of the International MARC (*MA*chine-*R*eadable *C*ataloguing) Programme (210). It has two main objectives: to create and maintain standards and uniform exchange arrangements and roles, and to develop the International MARC Network on the basis of agreements reached among bibliographic agencies, creating an organizational structure for the network.

The two main components of the project have already been described. One is located in the Deutsche Bibliothek in Frankfurt which takes care of the publication and updating of an international guide to MARC, the publication of the International MARC Newsletter, and the testing of UNIMARC. The second bureau, housed in the British Library, London, is responsible for the planning of the further development of UNIMARC and for developing the UNIMARC authorities format.

8.4 PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION (PAC)

Reference has been made to the growing interest over the last five years of preservation and conservation of library material, particularly books, matters which form the programme of the Section on Conservation in particular and whose activities will be described later in Chapter 14. The Section has naturally been concerned with the problems in this field, but IFLA, recognizing the urgency and the complexity of the issues and their international importance both for the preservation of the national heritage and for universal availability of information, decided in 1984 to take a wider interest and to establish a core programme devoted to them. It has been given the following guiding principles: national and international interdependence in the preservation and conservation of library materials; acknowledgement of the importance of conservation of physical format but nevertheless giving priority to the preservation of the content; development of strategies based upon the principles of selection rather than comprehensiveness. Action is planned to try to ensure the conservation of library material of whatever period, past, present, and future. The programme envisages research into different methods of preservation, the formulation of policy and strategy at national and international levels; the co-ordination of the work in this field carried out by related national and international agencies; and co-operation with information producers in order to assure for the future the use of permanently durable materials. The PAC Programme is hosted by the Library of Congress (USA).

8.5 TRANSBORDER DATA FLOW (TDF)

The technology of electronic data transfer and the concept of information networks led IFLA to decide in 1984 to start a transborder data flow core programme. It aims to promote among libraries the electronic transfer of data across borders both for storage and for processing by computer. Databases may provide information on all essential subject areas and cover reference data as well as source data, including full text. It is intended that economic and policy issues should be taken into account at national and international levels, and that aspects such as legislation, tariff policy, government inspection, technical facilities and their cost-effectiveness, should be covered. Naturally transborder data flow as such has wider implications and the IFLA core programme therefore will concentrate on those aspects which have an immediate impact on library work. It will be centred on raising awareness of the subject at the level of government and library associations; the formulation of policies and guidelines and the furthering of library focal points for issues relating to transborder data flow; co-operation; communications with different groups involved in transborder data flow at national and international levels; and the improvement of access to computerized databases, including access to full text bases through library networks.
The TDF Programme is hosted by the National Library of Canada.

8.6 ADVANCEMENT OF LIBRARIANSHIP IN THE THIRD WORLD (ALP)

As was explained in Chapter 1, advancement of librarianship in the Third World is not a goal or a problem new to IFLA. During the last ten years much has been accomplished in this area by all Sections and Round Tables, and in particular by and in close co-operation with the Division of Regional Activities and its Sections which are dealt with in more detail in Chapter 16. What is new in the core programme on the advancement of librarianship in the Third World which was established in 1984, is the endeavour to plan a cohesive programme which concentrates on the creation of the best possible conditions for self-development of library services.
The main aim is lateral co-operation among countries of the Third World. It may be true that objectives, goals, and methods of librarianship are the same anywhere in the world, but the opportunities to acquire library skills, the economic climate for cultural and social development, the educational opportunities and living conditions of the library users, or potential users, may differ considerably. In the programme the following tasks are emphasized: enlargement of participation of the Third World countries in IFLA's work; support and advice to librarians, library schools, and library associations in those areas; the strengthening of regional co-operation by establishing regional Standing Committees and information centres; the furthering of professional education and training by special seminars and through exchange of librarians within Third World countries.
The ALP Programme is located within IFLA Headquarters in The Hague.

9 GENERAL RESEARCH LIBRARIES

9.1 THE DIVISION

The Division of General Research Libraries embraces large general academic and research libraries, national libraries, and university libraries however they are constituted. Parliamentary libraries which, in a special sense, serve as general research libraries, also form part of this Division whose component Sections can be shown thus:

The main objectives of the Division are the development of technical operations and services in general research libraries, with all their implications for policy, management and administration. Specific areas of study are the roles of large research libraries in national information systems; problems of storage, conservation, and subject

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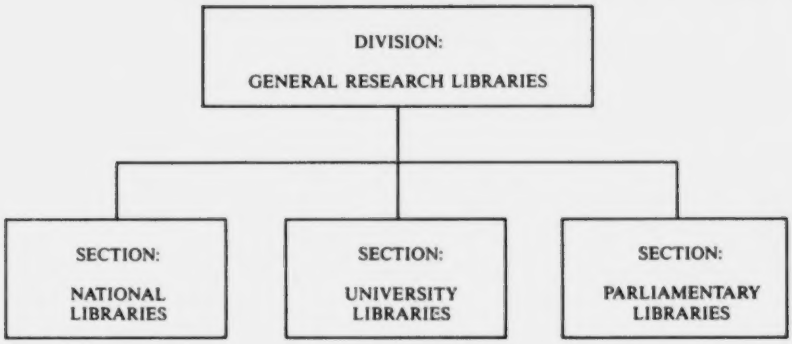

departmentalization. Special attention is given to co-operation with the Sections in other Divisions involved in technical and management studies.

9.2 NATIONAL LIBRARIES

Although the responsibilities of national libraries may vary from country to country, in most cases they include the preservation and promotion of the national cultural heritage, the collecting by legal deposit of the national imprint and its cataloguing, and the provision of central services either directly to users or through other libraries and information centres. In many cases they act as a channel for communication for other sectors of the profession.

The Section of National Libraries serves as a forum to share experience on practical problems and to give advice and assistance; it identifies the range and nature of the tasks of the national library, and furthers the contribution of national libraries to the UAP Programme (284). During the period covered by this review, special attention has been given to collection development, acquisition policy, resource sharing, legal deposit, the role national libraries can play in the formulation of a national information policy, and in the development of national networks (286). The role of national libraries in the promotion of reading has also been discussed (43), and studies were made on publishing by national libraries (287), and on national library legislation.

In addition to the Section of National Libraries, since 1975 there has been a Conference of Directors of National Libraries, linked to IFLA and meeting annually during the general conferences. It serves as a forum for library directors at which collective international action can be agreed on urgent matters, and recommendations can be made for further consideration by IFLA. In particular, the Conference has been active in the development of the International MARC Network.

9.3 UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES AND OTHER GENERAL RESEARCH LIBRARIES

The primary objective of this Section is the development of models for academic and research library services to enable them to provide full access to all publications and to enhance the efficiency of library operations. It is concerned with the programmes of Universal Availability of Publications and Universal Bibliographic Control. In the period covered, the Section concentrated on new technology and its impact on users (36), the need for adequate staff training (288), and the implications in the field of management and finance. Standards of university libraries have been discussed (222, 223). Co-ordination of resources (289) and the development of special collections (290) have been studied in the context of network building.
Papers have been given on the relation between university libraries and national libraries (26), and between university libraries and libraries of other higher education establishments (224).

The role of university libraries in developing countries has been the subject

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of a pre-session seminar in Munich 1983 (7), and a topic also pursued in Nairobi in 1984 (291). The contribution of university libraries to the national acquisition policy and to interlending services has been discussed in the context of UAP and UBC. A major contribution to these programmes has been the publication of the guide to the availability of theses (103, 104).

9.4 PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES

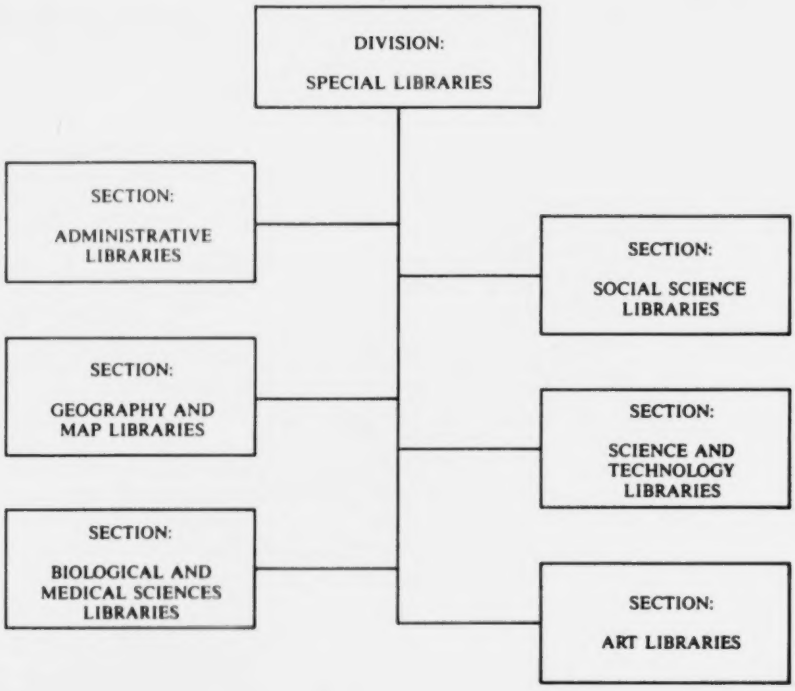
The main objective of the Section of Parliamentary Libraries is to provide information and to develop programmes to improve new and existing legislative and parliamentary libraries, particularly those of the developing countries. Here again the application of new technology is of central importance (146, 293). One subject of study is the relevance of research work carried out by public and private institutions on behalf of parliaments and the implication of such work for the parliamentary library.

Over the last five years, the Section has prepared a world directory of parliamentary libraries (292). It has studied the tasks and problems of this kind of library in general (294), the changing role of legislative libraries in particular (295), the place of the parliamentary libraries in networks (28), and inter-parliamentary co-operation (296). Investigations have been made on the need for and the use of parliamentary papers (115).

10 SPECIAL LIBRARIES

10.1 THE DIVISION

The main objective of the Division of Special Libraries is the co-ordination of all those libraries or service units within the libraries which are devoted to a particular discipline or group of disciplines, or which provide services to users interested in a particular profession, activity, or project. Their specialized information services for a specialized clientele give these libraries a particular interest in documentation and information, and links them with a number of international governmental and non-governmental organizations. The Division is divided into the following Sections:



The Division encourages the relations between special librarianship and the subject field, and between special librarianship and documentation. Other objectives are: the creating of networks; education and training for special librarianship; facilitating the implementation of the core programmes; and the establishing of special library service in developing countries.

A significant activity of the Division is the journal INSPEL first published in 1966 and reorganized in 1981 (357).

10.2 ADMINISTRATIVE LIBRARIES

The Section of Administrative Libraries covers libraries whose primary purpose is to serve the state at governmental level. As auxiliary services of governmental agencies, they are incorporated into and subordinated to the agencies of administration. Whereas in this field in particular dissemination of information is the core not only of library work but also of documentation agencies and archives, these three are closely connected in the Section's approach and the activities. The study of international cooperative information systems has been the main concern of the Section during the last years. In the context of this study investigations have been made into the libraries of the national statistical offices in the world (116). Whereas wordwide standardization in the field of information exchange cannot be expected within a short time, stress is laid upon professional solutions and applications of existing programmes for administrative libraries. Special attention is given to automated indexing, which is expected to become particularly important in the coming years. The Section also supports the administrative libraries in developing countries which are in the process of building up governmental information systems (297, 371). Other elements in the Section's programme are: staff training, and the application of modern information technology as such.

The Section also discussed the introduction of modern techniques and equipment in administrative libraries (298, 299, 373, 374), the development of information networks (372) for statistical data and literature (300, 375), and it has published a manual on planning the administrative library (227) as well as a world directory of administrative libraries (376).

10.3 SOCIAL SCIENCE LIBRARIES

The purpose of the Section of Social Science Libraries (303) is to promote co-operative interaction between libraries in the broad and varied field of the social sciences. The Section offers guidance and expertise in solving problems encountered in the use of new technology and assistance in co-ordinating the bibliographic activities. It co-operates with international bodies which promote documentation in the field of the social sciences. This has resulted in, for example, the foundation of the SSID Liaison Bulletin in 1981, which is published in co-operation with FID and the International Committee for Social Science Information and Documentation (301).

In the context of UAP, the need has been stressed for collecting and describing locally all those publications in the field of social sciences which are ephemeral and not produced or supplied through normal channels (117). The Section has considered also storage and dissemination of newspaper information in developing countries (106). Problems with bibliographic sources in economics (302) and international law have been discussed (118). A seminar was organized in 1982 on social science information, data services, and networking. The Section has also compiled a series of directories of libraries specializing in economics.

10.4 GEOGRAPHY AND MAP LIBRARIES

The promotion of the documentation, use and dissemination of geographic and cartographic information and international co-operation in this area (in particular, with the International Cartographic Association) are the main

objectives of the Section of Geography and Map Libraries (304), and it generates standards for the care and management of map collections. The Section has co-operated with the UBC and MARC Offices in preparing rules and models for bibliographic description and format of cartographic material. A workshop on practical map curatorship in developing countries was organized in 1981 (13), a manual for map librarians and a second edition of the world directory of map collections are being prepared (103). In recent years special attention has been focused on the results of the rapid development of remotely sensed imagery (147) and micro and digital cartographic information (126). A working group on equipment and space management has been established to investigate the special problems of storing cartographic materials.

10.5 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LIBRARIES

The main objective of the Section of Science and Technology Libraries is to establish a standing organization for the developing of common methods and services for libraries in the subject areas. The programme includes analysis of these methods, services and materials, and the training of staff. Of increasing importance in recent years has been the use of patents as a source of technical information (108, 110). Other subjects discussed have included the importance which some older, out of date, documents in the field of science and technology gain as part of the cultural heritage (305).

10.6 BIOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL SCIENCES LIBRARIES

The terms of reference taken by the Section of Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries are: the improvement of co-operation between biological and medical libraries, how to facilitate the sharing of technology relevant to these libraries, and the improvement of library and information provision to health care consumers (306). As in so many other areas, investigation is the first stage in the achievement of these objectives. A world list of biological and medical sciences libraries is due to be published in 1985. In recent years a major activity of the Section has been the planning of the international congresses on medical librarianship. Co-operation and interaction with international bodies such as FID and the World Health Organization is another feature in the programme (307), which also includes the conducting of regional activities, among which is the provision of training opportunities. Studies have been made on medical databases and networks (308, 309), and other applications of modern technology.

10.7 ART LIBRARIES

The development of art libraries and of access to art information worldwide, the provision of an international forum and information clearinghouse for art librarians and art libraries, and the provision of an international point-of-focus and "umbrella" organization for national and regional art library networks and associations, are the main objectives of the Section of Art Libraries which began as a Round Table in 1977 and became a Section in 1981 (366). It is noteworthy that the momentum for coming together internationally was generated within national and regional art library associations which now provide the Section with dynamic support. The Section encourages the formation of new national and regional associations of art libraries. The Section publishes a substantial newsletter and it has produced an international directory of art libraries (311) and prepared a reader in art librarianship (360) and an art librarians' glossary (310). By means of a regular "bibliographies update" in the Art Libraries Journal and a "professional literature update" in its own newsletter, it keeps art librarians informed on art bibliographies and the literature of art librarianship. Within its subject area, and in response to perceived needs, the Section is committed to contributing to the IFLA programmes of UBC and UAP (367) and is eager to enable the achievement of global solutions to the global problems and challenges represented by the universality and diversity of art on the one hand, and by the ideal of universal availability on the other. The Section is concerned

with art documentation in all formats; it has worked closely with the Round Table on Audiovisual Media, and has given concentrated attention to visual resources (128, 141), including slides (142), microfiche (127) and videodisc (143). Stressing the indivisibility of text and image in art documentation (312) and the essential links between art libraries and art documentation collections of all kinds, the Section has sought to join art librarians of every category, visual resource curators, archivists (370) and, to a degree, users of art libraries, in a communality of dialogue and endeavour.

11 LIBRARIES SERVING THE GENERAL PUBLIC

11.1 THE DIVISION

The libraries included in this Division (338) offer to the entire population, including the disabled and the illiterate, access to recorded knowledge and opportunities for study and recreation. These libraries have a great contribution to make to the spread of literacy and to fundamental and continuing education.

Most of the libraries within this group are public libraries, but as can be seen from the chart below, the Division includes a number of specializations. The Division supports and co-ordinates the activities of all of these units and may initiate projects in which they co-operate. One such programme has been the preparation of a revised edition of Standards for Public Libraries (219).

11.2 PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The aims of the Section of Public Libraries (338) are to discuss and to promote all matters concerning the provision of public library service in every environment; its objectives and policy; its theory and practice; and its standards and techniques. In former years for example, seminars on public library policy have been held in Lund (5), and, for Latin America and the Caribbean, in Caracas (6). In accordance with the principles laid down in the Unesco Public Library Manifesto (218), the Section promotes public library service in developing countries in particular, and it may undertake pilot projects to realize this objective. Studies have been made on the role of the public library in the eradication of illiteracy, in continuing adult education, on the interaction between the library and the community (41), and on reader education (42). Co-operation with institutions for adult education at local, national, and international levels is pursued. Attention is given also to public library services provided for people at their place of work as, for example, trade union libraries (336).

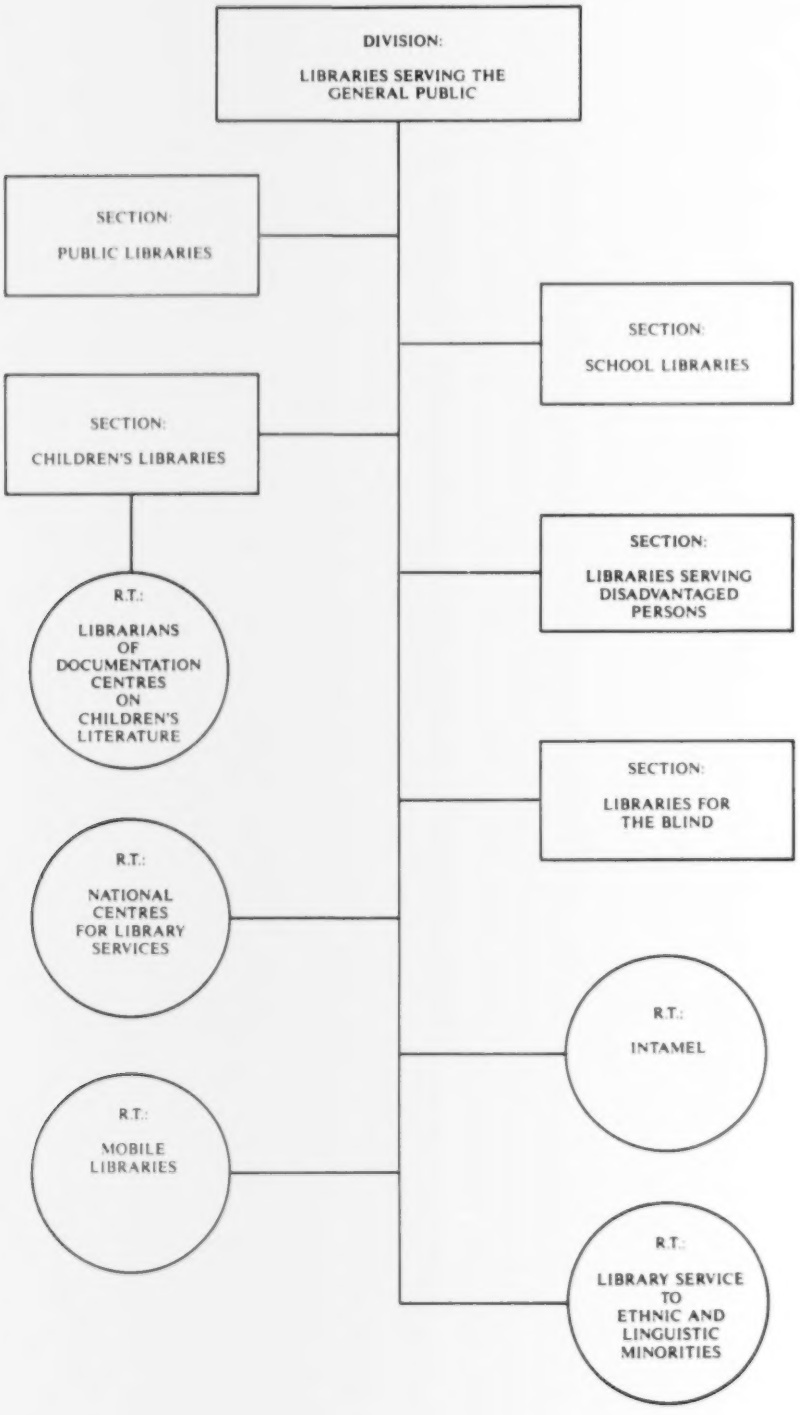
Another objective of the Section is to investigate how the performance of public library service can be measured and assessed, and how information technology should be applied in public libraries (337).

11.3 CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES

The promotion of international co-operation in library service to children and the exchange of experience and research in all aspects of this area are the main objectives of the Section of Children's Libraries (339). The interests of handicapped or otherwise disadvantaged children are covered in the Section's programme, which has included international action in the campaign "Books for All", and the movement to provide help to the "fourth world". The active involvement of adults concerned with children and books has been one of the special topics discussed (340).

Particularly important is the promotion of children's library service in developing countries.
In this context a project on home libraries was conducted in Zimbabwe

The Division includes the following Sections and Round Tables:



(15), and a seminar was held in Sierra Leone on creative writing for children (84), showing that the Section is concerned also with the infrastructure of library services, in this case, the production of children's books. In the revised edition of Library Work for Children, published in 1984, a considerable number of developing countries are now included (46).

The services for disadvantaged children in different situations have been examined; for example, children of Indo-Chinese refugees (49), children in a large city multi-ethnic community (342), mentally handicapped children (96), and socially deprived children (341). In these areas, studies are usually undertaken in co-operation with the Section of Libraries Serving

Disadvantaged Persons, the Round Table on Library Service to Ethnic and Linguistic Minorities, and any other relevant IFLA groups. From the very beginning the promotion of education for children's librarianship and in-service training has been an integral part of the programme. Over the last few years preliminary investigations in different countries have been undertaken by a working group preparing guidelines for the education of children's librarians.

In the field of technology, and in co-operation with the Section of School Libraries and the Round Table on Audiovisual Media, the impact of new media such as the introduction of video into children's library services has been studied (144, 145).

11.4 SCHOOL LIBRARIES

School libraries are fundamental to the use of all other libraries; it is here that children learn to find information and how to profit from recorded knowledge for study and research. The stocks and services of school libraries are as wide-ranging as the curricular needs of students and teachers upon which they are centred, but, at the same time, they may be nodal points in the national information network. The importance of such an effective school library service has been stressed in the manifesto drafted by Unesco in 1980 (344), and the provision of this service has been furthered by the International Association of School Libraries and, more recently, by IFLA which, in 1977, established the Section of School Libraries (343).

It was recognized that the development of school library services was important in relation to many aspects of librarianship, and that a framework was needed through which, in close co-operation with other parts of the library world, children's libraries in particular, interest could be channelled and development fostered. Vital for school library provision is not only an effective link with the national library and information infrastructure, and an appropriate national policy in the legislation for which school libraries are recognized (44), but also adequately trained school librarians. The promotion, therefore, of education and training of school librarians by courses and seminars, in library schools and in-service, has always been one of the main objectives of the Section (268). It is equally important to develop training courses for teachers in school library use and this subject has been discussed more than once. In all activities in this field, special attention has been given to developing countries where school library services may be inhibited by lack of indigenous publications and by a greater reliance upon oral transmission. A working group funded by Unesco through the Section of School Libraries has issued guidelines for the production of instructional materials (101). A seminar on the education of school librarians for Central America and Panama was organized in Costa Rica in 1978 (268, 269). Standards for school libraries were discussed in relation to the planned revision of public library standards (345). The introduction of computers into schools has changed not only methods of library administration, but has brought a new element into the school curriculum. Children are taught to use computers for information retrieval, and here the school library has a great contribution to make (346).

11.5 LIBRARIES SERVING DISADVANTAGED PERSONS

For many years this Section of the Division was the Section of Library Services to Hospital Patients and Handicapped Readers (52), but in 1984 it adopted its new title. This reflects the needs not only of the housebound and elderly, and the mentally and physically handicapped, but also those of other disadvantaged people who are not able to use general library services, in particular, those who are in penal institutions.
The Section is concerned, therefore, with resources for people whose reading abilities are impaired in any way. In the period under review, in co-operation with the Section of Children's Libraries, a guide to the selection of books for the mentally handicapped was published (96), much attention was given to the need for a special approach to the deaf (58) (59), and a

study was conducted into copyright and library materials for the handicapped (97).

The Section also deals with physical access to buildings and collections and with reading aids for the physically handicapped, with the proviso that aids for the visually handicapped remain the concern of the Section of Libraries for the Blind. One of the primary objectives is the improvement of libraries for hospital patients and the promotion of professional activity in this field. In 1982 the Section organized an international course on library services to hospital patients and disabled people, and prepared guidelines for these services. It stressed the importance of education and training for health care librarianship (266). In the revision of the public library standards, to which reference has been made elsewhere, the existing standards of hospital library service and library service to the handicapped were incorporated. An international bibliography of hospital and welfare library services was published (54).

11.6 LIBRARIES FOR THE BLIND

The main objectives of the Section of Libraries for the Blind (62), which began as a working group in 1977 and became a Section in 1983, are to promote national and international co-operation in the field of library services for the blind, to encourage research and development in all aspects of this area, thus improving the availability of materials for the blind and visually handicapped. The Section co-operates with the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind and other similar international organizations for monitoring the actions of users of services. It published an international directory of libraries and production facilities for the blind in 1984 (364).

A primary goal is to provide equal opportunities for all readers regardless of their handicap and to improve the information on the services available to them. In particular, the development of library service to the visually handicapped in the Third World is promoted by the Section. Seminars were organized in Africa (8), and in other regions, and a guide to developing braille and talking book services has been published (138). Key papers on the international approach of library service for the blind and physically handicapped presented at the IFLA Conference in Štrbské Pleso, in 1978 were published and were supplemented by a second volume in 1982 (66).

Much attention is given to library materials for the blind and visually handicapped: large print (99), braille production and the impact of new technology on braille (140), braille music (139), and tactile maps (347). The improvement of interlibrary loan and of postal and customs regulations have been investigated, and evaluation undertaken of the many new reading aids, devices and methods for visually handicapped people now commercially available.

11.7 LIBRARIANS FROM DOCUMENTATION CENTRES ON CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

In a number of countries national documentation centres exist whose function it is to record and investigate historic and contemporary children's literature and the related professional literature, and provide research materials on children's literature and reading habits. The Round Table of librarians working in these documentation centres (95) facilitates the exchange of knowledge in this field and promotes, as part of the UAP programme, the preservation of children's literature through national deposit collections. A list of documentation centres on children's literature has been compiled, and their responsibilities and structure discussed (348).

11.8 INTAMEL

The International Association of Metropolitan City Libraries (INTAMEL) (349) was established in 1968 as a platform for professional communication and information for librarians of cities with 400,000 or more inhabitants.

As an association it has independent status, but it has always worked within the objectives and structure of IFLA, and, as a Round Table in the Division of Libraries Serving the General Public, it is part of the family of IFLA's professional units. Annual conferences are organized where exchange of experience and ideas takes place on city library systems and their particular features and problems. Subjects included are their buildings, their research function, and their library extension activities. The following subjects in particular were highlighted during the last five years and should be mentioned: centralization and decentralization in city library networks; the formation of special subject departments with their own collections and services; and the automation of catalogues and the establishment of on-line information services. Comparative statistics of the member city libraries are produced annually.

11.9 NATIONAL CENTRES FOR LIBRARY SERVICES (ROTNAC)

In a number of countries national centres exist for library services. They provide libraries with materials for acquisitions, cataloguing, circulation systems, publicity and other requirements.

Although the organization of the centres varies from country to country, their objectives have much in common, as do the methods and form of their operation. This common approach made it possible in 1976 to form a Round Table of National Centres for Library Services; they are either associated with an appropriate government department or with libraries and national library organizations. The forum serves to exchange information about new developments and to promote the concept of centralized services to libraries in other countries. In 1981 a travelling seminar for the benefit of librarians from developing countries was organized involving six European centres (10). In developing and introducing central services, the Round Table co-operates with other related professional units of IFLA. Thus, in Nairobi in 1984, centralized services to the disabled was discussed as part of the programme of Libraries Serving the Disadvantaged.

11.10 MOBILE LIBRARIES

In many areas, rural and urban, where it is not feasible to operate fixed library service points, flexible library services are provided by mobile libraries, usually especially equipped road vehicles, but including occasionally both boats and trains. Not only from a technical point of view, but also in matters of operational planning and management, this type of service has its own special problems. Since there was a demonstrable need to collect and exchange experience and to provide advice on the establishment of mobile services, the Section of Public Libraries in 1977 formed a provisional working group which in 1980 was changed into the Round Table of Mobile Libraries (220). Subsequently, the Round Table began to collect information, started work on guidelines for the equipment and operation of mobile libraries, and discussed standards for mobile libraries.

11.11 LIBRARY SERVICE TO ETHNIC AND LINGUISTIC MINORITIES

When after World War II, and more particularly in the 1970s, library service to ethnic and linguistic minorities became a prominent issue in librarianship, librarians involved in service to such groups felt the need for contact and exchange of experience at an international level. In 1980 they formed a working group within the Section of Public Libraries which in 1983 was made a Round Table (51).

The Round Table promotes library services which enable ethnic groups to maintain their linguistic and cultural background. Special attention is paid to the supply of appropriate material for the children of immigrants who

have particular needs (50). Included in this programme are not only documentation and information on the state of the art of current services, but also the promotion of initiatives in various countries. A manual on library services to ethnic and linguistic minorities is planned; standards for materials and services are considered; and the Round Table seeks to ensure that library service to ethnic and linguistic minorities is given a proper emphasis in the curricula of library schools and training courses.

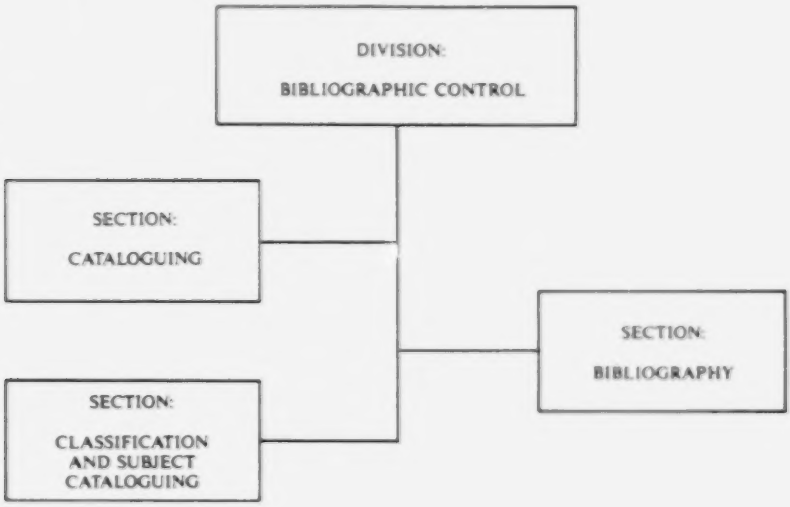
12 BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL

12.1 THE DIVISION

From the 1930s the inprovement of bibliographic control through the unification of cataloguing rules has been one of IFLA's primary activities. The early work in this field was the responsibility of a Committee on Cataloguing, but gradually it became evident that more was involved than cataloguing rules alone. In 1974 the concept of universal bibliographic control was formulated, and a programme was designed to improve every aspect of the bibliographic standards of libraries, documentation centres, and information services. As has been described, it was adopted as a core programme of IFLA with headquarters in London. However, the committee, since 1977 the Sections of Cataloguing and of Bibliography, continued in existence as a guiding group of experts in the field. As a result, there is a Division on Bibliographic Control (160) whose goal is the implementation of the UBC programme, with a special focus on Third World countries, close co-operation with the International MARC Programme, and, whenever appropriate, with international bodies such as ISO.

The activity of the Sections of the Division is aimed at an improved exchange of bibliographic data to be realized by standardization in the construction of systems of bibliographic records and taking into account new technology.

The Division has three Sections only:



12.2 CATALOGUING

If, in compliance with the UBC Programme, the same cataloguing principles and rules have universally to be followed, standardization is essential. The activities of the Section on Cataloguing (161) are concentrated on the development of standards for bibliographic description

and authority control, as has been mentioned in Chapter 4, and new technology in this area demands close co-operation with the Section on Information Technology. During the last five years, the Section's activities were directed towards the different ISBDs and their revisions (175); the development of an international authority system, with lists of uniform headings (184, 108, 109, 189, 189a, 190); form and structure of corporate headings (186); the cataloguing of new forms of non-book material (179); cataloguing-in-publication (200); and standard book and serials numbers (192, 194). Special attention has been given to a strategy for the use of advanced technology for bibliographic control in the Third World countries (166).

12.3 BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Section on Bibliography (162) encourages bibliographic activities both theoretical and practical. It creates a forum for discussion on every question concerning bibliography and it gathers data and prepares recommendations and guidelines (168) in order to improve national bibliographic control and to assist national bibliographic agencies with priority being given to developing countries (165). The effect of new technology is taken into account (174); attention is given in particular to machine-readable bibliography within the MARC network (213); and in addition to general matters concerning current bibliography (172), the problems of retrospective bibliography feature increasingly in the Section's programme (173).

12.4 CLASSIFICATION AND SUBJECT CATALOGUING

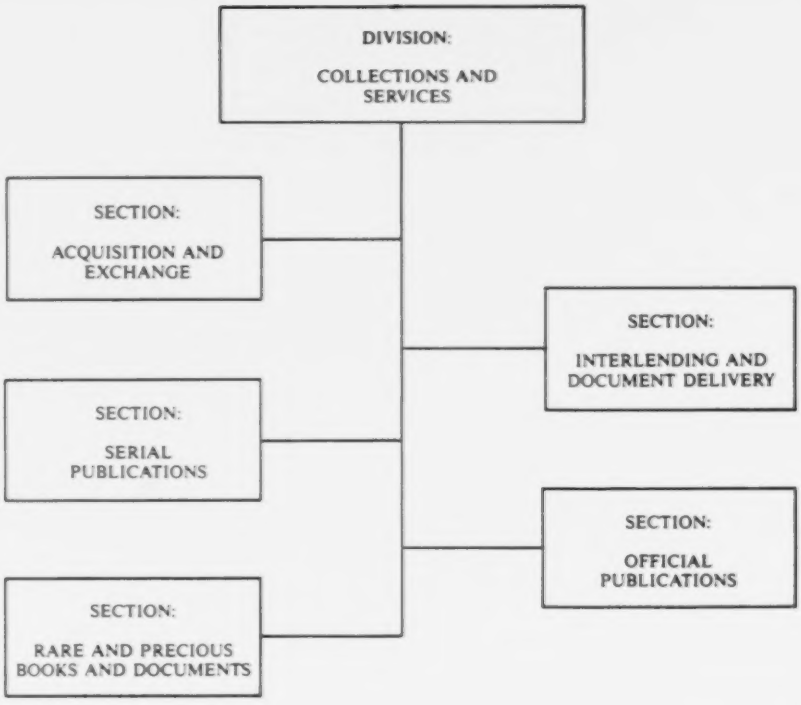
Although the development of a universal classification system, UDC, had for many years been the special concern of FID, it did not prevent IFLA from establishing in 1977 a Round Table on Classification (203). It was apparent that there was a need for a regular international forum on general classification to allow for an exchange of views between those who generate schemes, those who develop and publish them, and the wide variety of users. Moreover, it was felt that here too standardization was essential for the international exchange of bibliographic information. Thus the development of standards, not only in the field of classification, but also in subject headings has been a major subject in the Section's programme (202). It has included also the continuing investigation of the use of different classification schemes, in particular in national bibliographies (204) and another matter of regular concern has been the application of new technology in computerized subject cataloguing and indexing systems (205, 207). The consequences of such application for Third World countries have also been considered (208).

13 COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

13.1 THE DIVISION

The main objective of the Division of Collections and Services is the improvement internationally of collection building and services to readers. In support of this goal the Division initiates or encourages studies and publications aimed at the realization of UAP, and, in order to achieve its objectives, it co-operates with FID and ICA wherever appropriate. The Sections of the Division are the following:

In divisional meetings attention has been given to resource sharing, in particular in times of recession; to the long-term responsibility of UAP, that is, the need to preserve collections for posterity (81); to the impact of electronic publishing on libraries (152); and on the problems of conservation, a study undertaken in collaboration with the Section on Conservation as will be described in Chapter 14.



13.2 ACQUISITION AND EXCHANGE

The theory and practice of library acquisition in general, and exchange of publications in particular, are the special interests of this Section (89). The advantages of, and the problems arising from exchange of publications, has for long been a subject addressed by IFLA. At an earlier stage the publications involved were mainly academic but since the 1960s attention has been turned to official publications. A handbook (90) and a collection of studies on international exchange (92) have been published, standard letters for exchange were considered (91), as were training guidelines for librarians from the Third World. A discussion on the exchange of official publications between African and European libraries took place in 1984. Among the general problems of acquisitions considered in the last five years have been co-operation in collection development and resource sharing necessitated by the explosive growth of literature and by inflationary factors (313); the collecting and accessibility of grey literature (114); and the difficulties experienced in the acquisition of material from African and Asian countries (86) (87). In such matters consultation and co-operation with the Regional and other appropriate Sections is fundamental.

13.3 INTERLENDING AND DOCUMENT DELIVERY

The main goal of the Section on Interlending and Document Delivery is to promote interlibrary lending both nationally and internationally and to take into account rapidly developing technology as it affects documents supply. The programme of the past five years included the planning of interlending systems in developing countries (314) and comparative studies on centralized and decentralized provisions for interlending (315). In this context the building of core collections of journals for interlending purposes was given special attention (107). A subject demanding continuous study is the impact of technology on interlending (316); not only is automation important, but also electronic searching, messaging and document delivery, and the development of electronic publishing. A manual on interlending with special reference to developing countries is in preparation, and the Section works closely with the IFLA Office for International Lending based at Boston Spa.

13.4 SERIAL PUBLICATIONS

The handling of serials in libraries including their bibliographical control, management and conservation, is the area of study of the Section on Serial Publications. Its programme has special relevance to the needs of developing countries where continuing access to information in serials is of paramount importance.

During this review period the Section prepared under IFLA/Unesco contract guidelines for union catalogues of serials, one of its programme's main features (198). A special working group has investigated the handling of newspapers in libraries, including the problems of preservation of hardcopy and of microfilming (105). The Section joined the Section on Cataloguing in preparing and reviewing the ISBD for Serials with reference to the ISDS (318). Problems of incompatability between them were discussed (197); serials control systems and their evalution (319), and serials librarianship, education and training (265) have also been considered.

13.5 OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

Official publications are a body of material characterized by a range of problems common to all countries. These problems result from insufficiency of bibliographic control and methods of distribution and publicity by governments, from non-availability of material through normal channels, lack of awareness on the part of users and researchers, and deficiencies in library training. As a result of these factors, these important sources of information are under-used, and the Section's primary aim is the improvement of this situation. After a conference of official publications experts in Saratoga Springs, 1982, a start was made with the preparation of a directory of experts and sources for official publications. A definition of the term "official publications" was drafted (112) in connection with an extensive study on the availability and use of official publications in libraries (113). Some papers have illustrated the use of this kind of material in developing countries in general (320), in university libraries in particular, and the problems librarians in these countries have to face with the acquisition and bibliographical control of official publications (322). Bibliographical aspects, especially problems in relation to the form and structure of the very frequently used corporate headings, were discussed in joint working groups with the Sections on Cataloguing and on Bibliography. As in so many other areas, the impact of technology has not been ignored (323).

13.6 RARE AND PRECIOUS BOOKS AND DOCUMENTS

The Section on Rare Precious Books and Documents is intimately concerned with three of IFLA's core programmes, Preservation and Conservation, Universal Availability of Publications, and Universal Bibliographic Control. In relation to UAP, its role is cautionary; access to rare and precious books has to be limited because of their rarity and fragility, and their position as an important part of the cultural patrimony of the nations. In this context, during the last five years attention has been drawn to the concept of the Museums of the Book as bibliological institutions that systematically realize the documentation and presentation of the history of the book in close connection with its social functions both past and present (121). In order to ensure international co-operation in this area a working group on Museums of the Book was established.

Also, in the field of UBC, the Section has its own contribution to make: the retrospective bibliography which may guide the reader to what has been written in the past when the concept of national bibliographies of current literature was totally unknown. Promotion of the exchange of bibliographic information about older books in machine-readable form by means of the ISBD Antiquarian has been a main feature in the Section's programme. Advantages and problems of the application of computer technology to rare book cataloguing have also been studied and discussed (324, 325). An elaborate project of bibliographic description begun in the 1930s is the

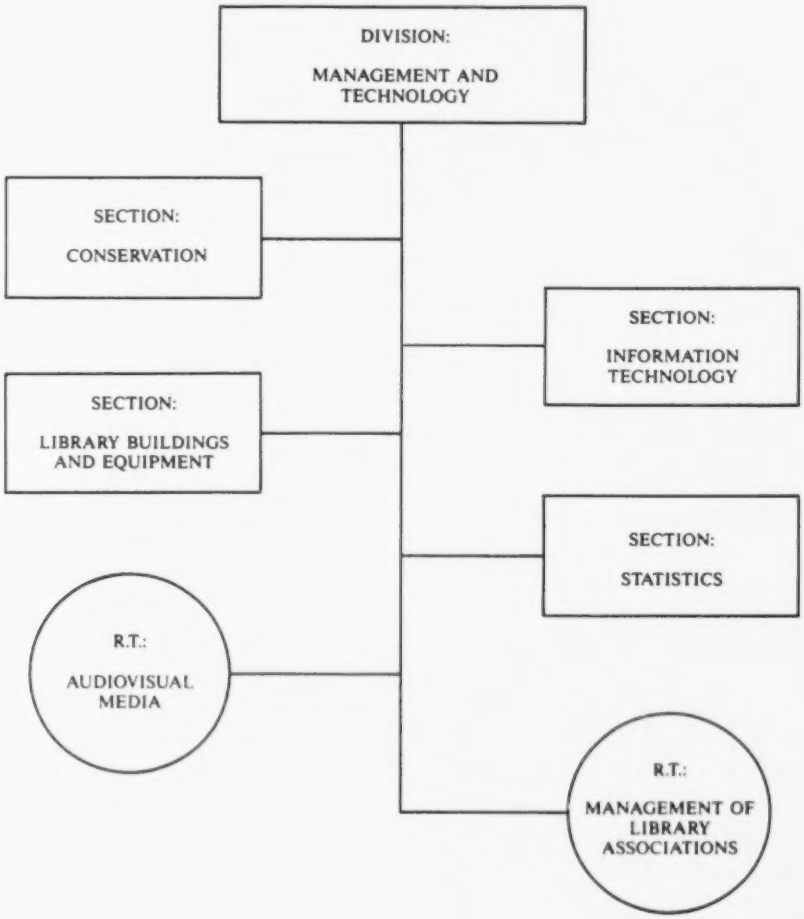
Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke (Union Catalogue of Incunabula) (326). Some work on this project has been possible in recent years, but progress has been hampered by lack of funds.

In collaboration with the Round Table on Library History in Nairobi, 1984, papers were presented on library collections relating to the study of the African heritage (327). On a less happy note, it has been found necessary to conduct a study on systems for prevention and detection of theft of precious library materials which has been undertaken in collaboration with the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers (359).

14 MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

14.1 THE DIVISION

The Division of Management and Technology deals with a number of fundamental activities and problems affecting all types of libraries and library associations. As its title indicates, it is mainly concerned with all aspects of management and the application of technology and, in these matters, central to modern librarianship (20), the Division supports the work of the Sections devoted to types of libraries and of the core programmes. The Division is composed of four Sections and, since 1984, two Round Tables:



14.2 CONSERVATION

The preservation for posterity of library materials is an inescapable responsibility. This demands special methods of storage, preservative

treatment, restrictions of the use of originals by the substitution of facsimiles or of microforms, and the employment of specialist non-librarians to provide particular expertise in conservation management. The Section on Conservation endeavours to foster greater awareness of these interests and related problems, to provide guidance on conservation and restoration measures, and to further research in areas where there are known weaknesses.

The urgency of these aspects on library management has featured prominently in the Section's programme (122) and it has also highlighted the special problems of tropical areas where the deterioration of library material is increased by climatic conditions (123).

As has been described in Chapter 8, the subject was considered to be of such importance and urgency that it was decided to establish in 1984 a core programme with which the Section will co-operate closely.

14.3 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The activities of the Section on Information Technology (17) deal with the application of modern technology in the field of libraries and information systems vital for development of libraries everywhere. They are closely related to the work of the core programmes and to other Sections of IFLA. Two areas can be distinguished: the application of technology to the handling of information in libraries, and the technology of networks and telecommunications. In both areas, not only technological aspects are considered, but also economics and cost effectiveness and consequences for staff and users. Technology in libraries is concerned with information retrieval, circulation control, interlending, statistical and accounting data, etc., and also with new forms of information transfer.

Among the new areas considered in recent years by the Section have been videotex technology (153, 154); electronic publishing and document delivery (80); and software for minicomputers (213, 328). In addition, network technology has been a major issue. Studies have been made on the concepts of open and closed networking (329), and the Section joined with the Sections on Bibliography and Cataloguing in developing bibliographical standardization, UNIMARC format and authority systems. Information has been exchanged on national networks of different countries, and the growing importance of transborder data flow was highlighted (19), the latter leading to the establishment of the core programme described in Chapter 8.

Information technology was the main theme of the IFLA Conference in Munich in 1983. The Section held no individual programme sessions, but instead organized a special meeting jointly with the Division of Special Libraries and Sections of Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries and Social Science Libraries. A number of keynote papers presented there were published in the first two issues of IFLA Journal for 1984 (23). The question of what libraries in developing countries can and should do with information technology was also discussed in Munich (31).

14.4 LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

The goal of the Section on Library Buildings and Equipment is to collect and disseminate knowledge and experience in this field (235). This is done mainly by organizing seminars on library buildings in different countries in which librarians from the Third World also participate. In these seminars contacts are established between librarians and archivists, and the creating of conditions under which it will be possible for each of them to understand the other's language is one of the aims of the Section.

As was described in greater detail in Chapter 5, seminars have been devoted to buildings for national (237) and for university libraries (236) as well as for public libraries (238) and library systems (239). Guidelines for library buildings were compiled (241), building requirements in tropical areas

studied (249), and papers were presented on the impact of technology on library buildings (245, 246).

14.5 STATISTICS

Statistics are recognized as a means to measure the performance of library services and therefore are an important aid to library management in that they enable meaningful comparisons to be made on such matters as reference use, information services, and circulation. International co-operation in library statistics is of critical importance and has been facilitated through the activities of Unesco. The Section on Statistics continues to participate in the development of library statistics and their introduction on an international basis. The Section has evaluated Unesco's recommendations for standardization of library statistics (229, 230). In particular, it gives assistance and guidance in the field of statistics to libraries in developing countries as a contribution to IFLA's core programme for the Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World. The Section is concerned not only with statistics of individual libraries, but also with statistical data for the planning and operation of networks (232, 233).

14.6 AUDIOVISUAL MEDIA

Faced with the growing importance of non-book material for documentation and information purposes, the Round Table on Audiovisual Media seeks to further the provision and use of these media in all types of libraries. It serves as a platform where common problems can be discussed and where professional knowledge and expertise can be shared on a worldwide scale. As was mentioned in Chapter 3, the study of audio-visual media as a specific topic started within IFLA in 1973 in the Section of Public Libraries, and it continued to be connected with libraries serving the general public until 1984 (129). Because of this connection, until recently many activities were related to library work of that type, for example, educational programmes in public library work (130), children and school libraries (131), work for handicapped people, for the blind (138), and for immigrants.

Nevertheless it became clear that audio-visual media were also becoming important in research and special libraries (124, 132). These libraries dealt with applications in social and political matters (137), in the documentation of culture (136), and art (141). This diversification led to the transfer of the Round Table to the Division of Management and Technology so that its interests were no longer bound to a single type of library, but its scope extended to all new technological developments such as video (144), and compact discs.

14.7 MANAGEMENT OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

Library Associations in each country have a major role to play in assisting with the formulation of policies and objectives of Unesco, IFLA, and their own governments, both at national and local levels. Among their areas of interest is participation in the national library and information services and in the formulation of national information policies.

It is not easy in all circumstances to build up an effective organization to fulfil that role and therefore, in 1983, it was decided to form a Round Table for the Management of Library Associations (273). It assists national library associations in identifying library and information policies; it makes its expertise available to all library associations in order to improve their organization, management, control, and means of communication; and it serves as a platform for exchange of knowledge and techniques, in particular on behalf of developing countries. An early objective of the Round Table is the establishment of a databank of information on library association policies and practices as they exist worldwide.

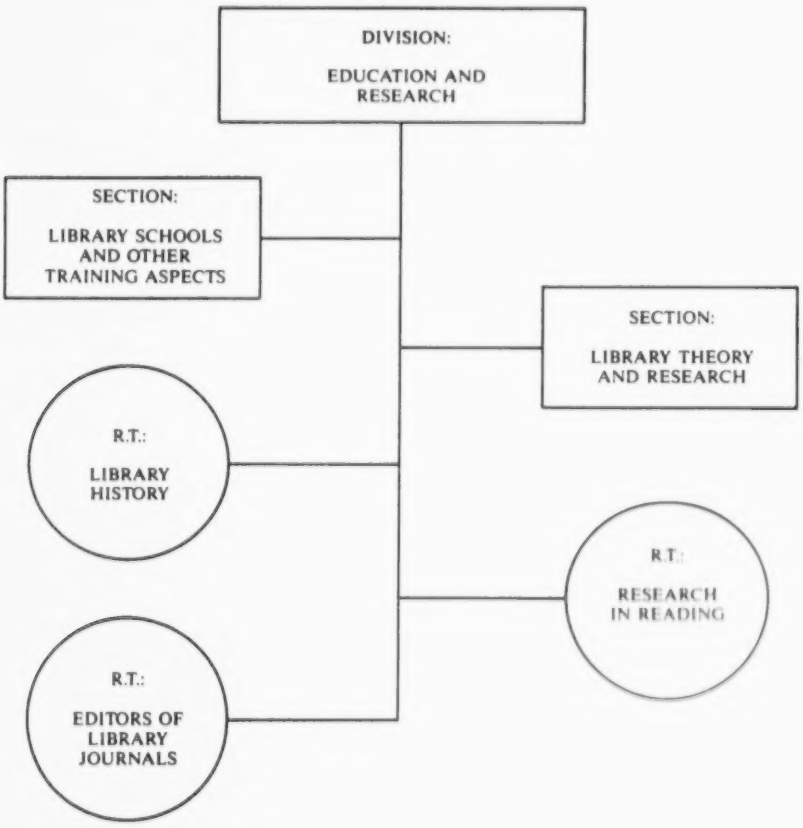
15 EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

15.1 THE DIVISION

In a library world where development is stimulated by exchange of knowledge and experience of the workers in the field, the professional education and training of these workers must be a matter of concern for an international organization. Only by educating to an adequate level, and by linking that education closely to research, can the objectives of the profession be achieved. And only by co-operation and the harmonization of educational programmes can something of a genuine worldwide profession with professional standards be established. The Division of Education and Research (330) has a primary objective to further the awareness of these needs, to promote the quality of library education, and to stimulate the undertaking of feasibility studies in this area. It encourages the harmonization of library, information, and archival programmes in education and training and it has been actively concerned in the Unesco Symposium on this theme in 1984.

It also encourages continuing education programmes based on the results of library research with particular reference for the need to update knowledge. A secondary objective of the Division is to encourage library research in both general and specific topics, and to disseminate research results. In all of this special attention is given to the needs of non-industrialized countries as these areas require the support of research oriented towards their own special requirements.

In the Division the following Sections and Round Tables are included:



15.2 LIBRARY SCHOOLS AND OTHER TRAINING ASPECTS

The main objective of the Section on Library Schools and other Training Aspects (261) is to establish the status of the library and information science profession on a worldwide scale, not least through programmes for exchange of librarians and students between different countries. In its various projects, the Section co-operates with education and training committees of related organizations like FID and ICA, convinced as it is of the need for harmonization and integration of education for library and information science and archives.

Over the last five years the Section has given support to the library education programmes in developing countries by organizing seminars in different regions of the world (9), an international guide to library and information science education has been published (263), and guidelines for a model curriculum were prepared. Because management functions in libraries are affected by modern technology (331), the preparation of guidelines for the teaching of management has been one of the major projects of the Section, and continuous attention will be given to the incorporation of new technology and networking aspects into programmes of professional education (257) in consultation with appropriate Sections. Equivalence and reciprocity of qualifications throughout the world has been another project of the Section, and a state of the art report was published in 1982 (264). The development of continuing education programmes for library educators and practitioners forms another part of the Section's programme.

15.3 LIBRARY THEORY AND RESEARCH

Library research is, in short, the area of activity of the Section on Library Theory and Research (334). The Section initiates and co-ordinates research in co-operation with the Round Table on Library History and other IFLA professional groups whenever appropriate. It is a platform for communication between researchers in library and information science, and it furthers the improvement of contacts between researchers and practitioners. One of the means by which the aims are achieved is the organizing of international seminars on research subjects which, in recent years, have been held in Warsaw, Istanbul and Berlin (DDR) (39). The theme of the first of those seminars was "Books and Libraries in Society". With the Section on Public Libraries, a working group was formed for the study of the measurement of public library use. Another objective of the Section is the contribution to the standardization of terminology. Terminological documents from ISO/TC 46 were evaluated, terminological problems of networks were introduced in a conference paper (332), and the results of a study on the development of theoretical frameworks in library and information science were reported (333).

15.4 LIBRARY HISTORY

Begun as a working group in 1977, and given its present status in 1979, the Round Table on Library History (350) exists to stimulate interest and research in library history as an integral part of library science. It works in close co-operation with national and regional institutions engaged in library history as well as with the IFLA Section on Rare and Precious Books and Documents, and it promotes international meetings of experts in the field. Teaching and research programmes are encouraged, and research results are disseminated by specific bibliographies and directories. The non-current records of the internal administration of libraries are source material for historical research, and the Round Table has advocated their better organization and preservation (351).

15.5 EDITORS OF LIBRARY JOURNALS

Library journals are needed not only to link together library workers in

various areas of practice, but also to draw the profession together and enable it to communicate more effectively with government at both national and local levels, with funding bodies, with parent organizations, and with the communities that libraries serve. They are also indispensable for the dissemination of the findings of the research, one of the main conditions for the development of effective library and information systems.

In order to promote the editing of attractive and reliable library journals and newsletters of high quality, the Round Table of Editors of Library Journals was formed in 1978 (274).

The Round Table works in close collaboration with the Round Table for the Management of Library Associations, and directs its activities primarily to the developing countries (276). The problems which hamper the publication of a professional journal in these areas (275) were discussed in workshops in Manila and Montreal (280). The Round Table also makes efforts to increase the coverage of journals in abstracting and indexing services, and here again particular attention is given to journals from developing countries (277, 352).

15.6 RESEARCH IN READING

Research in reading has regularly been a matter of study within IFLA. In 1984 a seminar in Moscow was devoted to the role of books and reading in cultural development (40). Because library use is closely related to reading habits, library user research, as fostered by a joint working group of the Sections of Public Libraries and on Theory and Research, cannot be satisfactorily undertaken without research in reading.

In 1984, the importance of this area of research for library and information science and practice led to the establishment of a separate Round Table on Research in Reading. It intends to stimulate interest and research in the field of reading both within a library context and outside it, as an integral part of library science and research. In co-operation with national and international institutions in this field, the Round Table promotes specific research projects and seminars of experts in order to provide a basis for comparative studies at international level.

16 REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

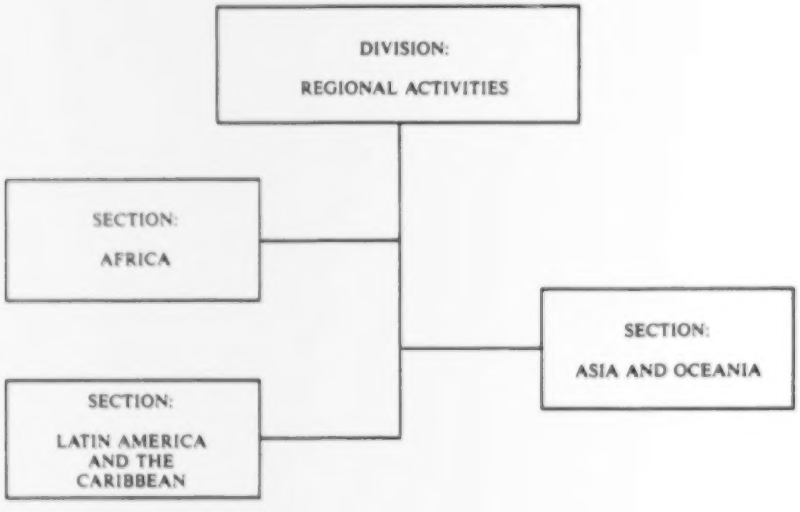
16.1 THE DIVISION

The Division of Regional Activities is unique in the IFLA structure of professional activities in that it is mission-oriented as opposed to the subject orientation in other Divisions. Its primary objective is to ensure that the many difficult and challenging problems of the Third World countries are incorporated into the professional programmes of IFLA. Eighty of the 120 countries in which IFLA has members are in the developing regions of the world and many of the problems found in these countries are similar, although they may vary in magnitude. As they are common to all developing regions, the following objectives can be singled out for mention: the development of national libraries and library and information structures; the promotion of UAP; the establishment of public library systems, with particular attention to the needs of rural areas; promotion of library service for the physically handicapped; development of library education programmes and improvement of the status of the professional librarian; promotion of intra- and inter-regional staff exchanges; and further development of children's libraries and school libraries.

The Division seeks to ensure the incorporation of these objectives, and those of its Sections which deal with the particular problems of the individual regions, in the overall professional programme of IFLA, and interacts with the various professional units to ensure that the special problems of developing countries are taken into consideration in the plans

of these units. How this is done can be observed in the preceding chapters where the programmes of Sections and Round Tables have been surveyed. To mention only a few subjects (excluding subjects relating to individual regions) papers have been presented on university libraries in the Third World (7), the need for information technology (31), problems of bibliographic control (166, 208), library buildings in tropical areas (248, 249), interlending and union catalogues (255), and library journals (352).

The Division develops its objectives in close co-operation with the core programme on the Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World described earlier, and it consists of three regional Sections:



16.2 AFRICA

The Section on Regional Activities: Africa concentrates on the provision of library and information services for citizens of African states, the eradication of illiteracy, the production and supply of materials to benefit non-literate persons (353, 354), and the promotion of oral traditions and the African cultural heritage. The Section's programme has included, and in some cases continues to include, identification of users' needs both in urban and rural areas, the production and supply of materials, the book trade infrastructure (84, 86), the organizing of library services to illiterate and newly literate persons and to the visually handicapped (8, 64), the development of school libraries and children's library service (15, 47), the preservation of cultural heritage (134, 135), and the use which can be made of that, together with the role of the keepers of that tradition, for example storytellers (136), African university libraries (291), medical and health information (307, 308), the use of newspapers (106) and official documents (322), library education and training, the production of library science textbooks, and bibliographical control (165, 189).

Through publications, seminars, pilot projects, etc., the Section aims to develop activities in these and related areas.

16.3 ASIA AND OCEANIA

The region Asia and Oceania covers a conglomerate of countries representing more than half of the population of the world. It is a region where IFLA membership has grown considerably during the last decade. The diversity and magnitude of problems facing library and information services in these countries vary greatly from one country to another; the services themselves range widely from virtually the most primitive to the advanced. The Section on Regional Activities: Asia and Oceania is mainly concerned with basic needs. It promotes the establishment of regional

library organizations in close relationship with IFLA, and it furthers the development of public library services including service to ethnic and linguistic minorities (322) and refugees (49). It has been concerned too, over the last five years, with different aspects of universal availability of publications (74, 86, 87), with bibliographic control (181, 182), with resource sharing in university libraries (289) and with the establishment of special libraries as important centres of information. It promotes library education and training (9, 225), the organization of workshops for continuing education, and the training of school librarians and children's librarians (355). It has taken steps to establish a central registry of academic projects and theses in library and information science produced in the region, and it maintains a database of experienced library and information personnel in the region, ELIPA (14).

16.4 LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Two of the main problems of this region, so far as IFLA is concerned, lie in the weakness of its national associations, and in the fact that the main language of the region is not as yet an official IFLA language. The Section on Regional Activities: Latin America and the Caribbean, therefore, orients its activities mainly to the strengthening of the professional organizations and their role in their individual countries and within IFLA. The Section aims at practical organization which takes into account geographical grouping and differences in languages and local conditions. Other principal issues are the provision of channels for the implementation in the region of IFLA's core programme for the Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World, and the continuous evaluation and consolidation of the professional results achieved. The more specific objectives include: the further development of public and school library services, the theme of a regional meeting in Caracas in 1982 (6); the co-ordination of the UAP programme with national systems in the region (74); and the furthering of library education including the education of school librarians, the theme of a seminar in 1978 in Costa Rica (269). The pre-session seminar on "Education for Research, Research for Education", organized in Montreal in 1982, was almost entirely a Latin American/Caribbean meeting (360). The programme of the Section includes the development of continuing education, the promotion of better teaching materials, the holding of workshops, and the co-ordination of study programmes within the region.

... So this was the story of five years of planning and activity by many IFLA workers. May it also prove to have been a solid base for a new period of global library cooperation.

Pier van Swigchem

PART III

17 INTRODUCTION

The references which are given below refer to the sources on which this survey, IFLA and the Library World, is based. It is the intention that the list will also make documents and papers given at IFLA Conferences more readily accessible.
The primary sources were IFLA Journal and IFLA Annual. The latter publication includes, among other information, the titles and in many cases the abstracts of IFLA Conference papers. The full texts may be obtained from the IFLA Clearinghouses, the addresses of which can be found in the IFLA Directory. Also included in this list are references to publications and documents issued by or under the auspices of IFLA - its core programmes, its Divisions, Sections and Round Tables - and to publications for which IFLA has given its professional cooperation.
The survey has been limited to the period 1979 through 1984. Publications or documents appearing in the period January-April 1985 have been recorded in very few instances only. Publications and documents issued before 1979 have been recorded only when the text of this survey has made it necessary.

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